

THE DEPOSITS  
OF THE  
USEFUL MINERALS & ROCKS  
THEIR ORIGIN, FORM, AND CONTENT

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LODES—METASOMATIC DEPOSITS—ORE-BEDS—  
GRAVEL DEPOSITS

*WITH 176 ILLUSTRATIONS*

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## TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE

I HAVE gratefully to acknowledge the several helpful reviews upon Vol. I. of this translation.

It has been suggested<sup>1</sup> that it would have been better not to have used eruptive as synonymous with igneous, but rather with volcanic. That is a suggestion which many would urge. The authors, however, whose views I am representing, actually use eruptive. Moreover, this term, in association with sedimentary as counterpart, is common among both British and American authorities. Geikie, for instance, in his *Text-Book of Geology* gives eruptive undoubted preference over igneous, and, according to him,<sup>2</sup> the eruptive rocks include both the plutonic and the volcanic.

It appeared to me also that in discussing ore-deposits the term eruptive assisted in conveying the idea of the part played by material coming upwards through the crust. The term sedimentary, its counterpart, similarly conveyed the idea of settlement upon the crust. In these two words we therefore have the magmatic and meteoric sources of ore-deposits suggested. The term igneous, properly speaking, should have no counterpart, these two terms suggesting the elements fire and water respectively, a suggestion less pertinent than the one above.

F. L. Ransome regrets the confusion in the English and American terms for the principal oxidized zinc ores. To avoid this confusion I have adopted a suggestion by Prof. Cullis, and described these ores as zinc carbonate and zinc hydrosilicate respectively, and the mixture of the two as zinc oxidized ore.

I have at times been doubtful whether the expression 'payable' in connection with ore-deposits should be continued, or whether profitable : workable should not be substituted. Of these two alternatives, how-

<sup>1</sup> *Mining Magazine*, Vol. XII. p. 114.

<sup>2</sup> Page 719.

ever, the former appeared to me more applicable to an enterprise than to an ore-deposit. Moreover, profit is an indefinite term and one which Rickard felt compelled to eliminate from his definition of ore.<sup>1</sup> I therefore have not used its derivative.

Workable, similarly, seemed to raise the question as to whether the dimensions of the deposit, physically speaking, allowed it to be worked. It appeared more applicable therefore to beds of coal or ironstone, where, the whole material of the deposit being the valuable commodity, size was the primary factor. Where, however, as with most metalliferous deposits, content is the factor first to be determined, it becomes pertinent to use a term suggestive of relative content. Pay and its derivatives have been used in this connection for generations, not only colloquially but also in monographs and technical papers. Pay-streak, pay-gravel, pay-shoot, etc., are expressions which have received the sanction both of long usage and authority; so also is payable; while payability conveniently expresses the ability to pay the cost of working, at least.

All these terms are found in Murray's *Oxford Dictionary*, payable being defined as follows:

1. Of a sum of money, a bill, etc. . . .
2. Mining (in active sense); of a mine, a bed of ore, a vein of metal, etc.: That can be made to pay, or yield adequate return for the cost of working; capable of being profitably worked.

Rickard, who otherwise discountenances the use of payable, says of this dictionary:<sup>2</sup> "The *Oxford Dictionary* is the ultimate authority in our language. It is the function of a dictionary . . . to record the words that have, after probation, found a place in our language."

Accepting a suggestion of Prof. Henry Louis that flucan was a doubtful rendering of *Gangtonschiefer*, I have in this present volume translated that word as lode-slate. This material is the altered, crushed, and sometimes ore-impregnated slaty material occasionally found in the lode-filling. Speaking generally, it might be considered as included in the more frequent term fault-rock.

Flucan I have taken to be an occurrence rather than a material, and to be the equivalent of *Lettenkluft*, which literally means clay-fissure. The term flucan formerly covered two things—namely, the clayey material found in fissures, and the clay-filled fissure itself. In this

<sup>1</sup> *Mining Magazine*, Vol. X. p. 257.

<sup>2</sup> *Trans. I.M.M.* Vol. XIX. p. 589.

work the clayey material I have described as gouge, and the clay-filled fissure as a flucan.

The expression clay-parting I have used for a clay-filled fissure parallel to the bedding or to the walls of a deposit.

*Sahlband* I have translated as lode-wall or, more simply, wall when peaking of a lode.

In Vol. I. I translated *Graben* and *Horst* as tectonic depression and tectonic elevation respectively. In this volume I have used subsidence and uplift, though perhaps trough-subsidence and block-uplift would be more expressive.

These two volumes, I. and II., form the complete work on ore-deposits. The third volume necessary to conform to the title, "The Deposits of the Useful Minerals and Rocks," has, so far as is known, not yet appeared.

I take pleasure in acknowledging my indebtedness to Miss M. B. Handy for many suggestions and for relieving me of countless details in this translation.

S. J. TRUSCOTT.

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<sup>1</sup> Touching the points mentioned under the young gold-silver lodes.

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<sup>1</sup> Touching the points mentioned under the young gold-silver lodes.

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<sup>3</sup> Touching the points mentioned under the young gold-silver lodes.

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## THE YOUNG GOLD-SILVER LODES

THE lodes belonging to this group for the greater part carry both gold and silver; more seldom they carry either gold or silver; while sometimes they carry silver and lead. It is characteristic of them, and especially of the largest and richest, that they occur in geologically young and chiefly Tertiary country, in association with numerous intrusions of eruptive rock, between which rock and the deposits both the closest connection and the most obvious dependence exist.

In Europe, lodes of this character are met in the Carpathians and along a mountain range near Cartagena in south-eastern Spain. The lead-silver deposit of Pontgibaud in France, on the western side of the large Tertiary eruptive area in Auvergne, may likewise be considered as belonging to this group. It is however in the extensive Andes of Chili, Bolivia, and Peru, in the mountain ranges of Mexico, in the Great Basin of the United States and, continuing farther north, in the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains, that they have their greatest development. There they do not end but are found to the north again, in Alaska.

Lodes of similar character are next met in Japan and then, farther to the south, along the east coast of Asia, and in Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes, and the Philippines.

This disposition of these deposits indicates a distribution coincident with the geologically young mountain chains which, to the east and west, border the Pacific. The Tertiary area of Hauraki in New Zealand, where among others the famous Waihi gold-silver deposit occurs, is, so far as is known, a disconnected and isolated occurrence.

It is of particular interest that lodes of this group do not occur in those Tertiary ranges which have not to any extent suffered intrusion by young eruptive rocks. The Alps and the Pyrenees, for instance, contain no such lodes.

As already mentioned,<sup>1</sup> the young gold-, gold-silver-, silver-, and silver-lead lodes are distinguished from the old gold-silver and silver-lead lodes not only by their geological age and the association with

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 185.

young eruptive rocks, but also by their association with certain alteration zones of those rocks, the propylitization zone for instance, with which in general they appear to be connected. It must be remarked, however, that where no index to age is forthcoming the difference between the two groups is not always pronounced, though mineralogically a preponderance of sulpho-salts is in many cases characteristic of the younger group. When therefore determining whether any particular lode should be placed in the one group or in the other, no single criterion may be taken as decisive, but the sum of all.

This division into a young and an old group, first proposed by F. v. Richthofen,<sup>1</sup> has since been adopted by many other authorities, such for instance as Suess,<sup>2</sup> Vogt,<sup>3</sup> Lindgren, Ransome, and Spurr.

*The Relation of the Young Silver-Gold Lodes to the Young Eruptive Rocks.*—The spacial and genetic connection between these lodes and young eruptive rocks is observable in every district where such lodes occur, whether the particular eruptives be of Miocene age, as they chiefly are; of Lower Tertiary, as they occasionally are; or of Late Cretaceous, as they are in isolated cases. The lodes occur preferably in volcanic chimneys, the so-called 'necks,' but also in the country-rock immediately adjacent. Less frequently they occur in portions of the eruptive farther removed from the centre of extrusion.

The eruptive rocks concerned are in most cases andesite or dacite, are often also rhyolite, are at times trachyte or even phonolite, but very seldom are of basalt. In districts where erosion has cut deep or where mining operations have penetrated to greater depths than usual, these rocks here and there show a normal granitic structure, indicating a consolidation under conditions productive of plutonic rocks; such occurrences have been described in the Hodritz valley near Schemnitz, at the Comstock, at Cripple Creek, etc.

While in the case of the tin- and the apatite lodes constant association with acid and basic rocks respectively has been established, the young gold-silver lodes show no such settled dependence, but maintain a close connection with an eruption as a whole, whereby they often occur associated with rocks of varied petrographical character, all of which however must have been derived from one and the same stock magma.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, although W. Moericke<sup>5</sup> with reference to the gold-, silver-, and

<sup>1</sup> See Literature of Hungary and the Comstock.

<sup>2</sup> *Zukunft des Goldes*, 1877, and *des Silbers*, 1892.

<sup>3</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1895, p. 485; 1898, p. 388.

<sup>4</sup> See the descriptions of Schemnitz-Kremnitz, Transylvania, Cartagena, Cripple Creek, Goldfield, Tonopah, etc., which follow.

<sup>5</sup> W. Moericke, *Die Gold-, Silber-, und Kupfererzlagernstätten in Chile und ihre Abhängigkeit von Eruptivgesteinen*, Freiburg i. B. 1897.

copper deposits of Chili found that the silver lodes as a rule were more often connected with the basic rocks and the gold lodes with such as were acid, no confirmation of this preference has elsewhere been observed.

The young silver- and gold lodes usually cross all the rocks belonging to one particular eruptive epoch, and their formation must consequently be considered as belonging to a very late phase of the eruptivity. Here and there a lode is found cut by still younger eruptives; sometimes also, as for instance at Schemnitz and at Pachuca, the lodes do not occur in the youngest of the Tertiary flows present, these flows doubtless belonging to a later eruptive epoch; while in exceptional cases, as for instance at Tonopah in Nevada, the different eruptive rocks contain different lode-systems.

Hot springs or gas exhalations of varied description are frequently found in the neighbourhood of these lodes; these are to be regarded as the last efforts of an expiring eruptive activity. In isolated cases such springs even occur in the lodes themselves, this occurrence at Comstock being well known. In that mine at a depth of 900 m. such large amounts of water having a temperature of 75° C., were met, that further mining operations were suspended. A similar hot spring broke into the Smuggler Union Mine at Telluride, Colorado, at a depth of 600 metres. At Cripple Creek and Tonopah, as well as at Mazarron and Pontgibaud, the miner has had at times to combat carbonic acid exhalations, though in the case of Mazarron it is questionable whether these were of volcanic origin.

In some cases the close relationship between the ore occurrence and volcanic phenomena is also suggested by a striking increase of the temperature in depth, such increase being far above the normal. This was the case at Comstock and at Tonopah.

*Deposition of the Ore in Relation to the Surface.*—As stated already, most of the deposits belonging to this group were formed in Middle Tertiary time. Since then erosion has lowered the surface, though naturally not to the same extent as would have been the case if the deposits had been formed at some more ancient period. In 1909 Ransome estimated the depth eroded at Goldfield and, together with Lindgren in 1906, that at Cripple Creek, to be at most 300 metres. Although every district will of necessity have its own figure, it may be said that the above relatively low figure affords some idea of such erosion in general.

Mines belonging to this group only in the rarest cases reach to depths greater than 750 metres. Adding this figure to the depth eroded, it may be said that these lodes are known to a depth which at the most is not more than 1.25 km. below the surface existent at the time of their formation. When it is realized, for instance, that the silver mines at Kongsberg in Norway have been exploited to an equivalent absolute depth of some

3-5 km., it is evident that the mineralogical character of lodes of different age may only be properly compared in relation to such absolute depths, and not to present depths.

In many Tertiary lode districts, as for instance Goldfield in Nevada,<sup>1</sup> Cripple Creek in Colorado,<sup>2</sup> Potosi in Bolivia,<sup>3</sup> and Mazarron in Spain,<sup>4</sup> it has been particularly remarked that the number of lodes at the surface is much greater than at a depth of 400-500 metres. In the neighbourhood of the present surface—that is, some hundred metres below that which existed when the lode became formed—the ore in some districts occurs chiefly in contraction fissures, while in greater depth proper tectonic fissures are the rule. Moreover, even in districts where tectonic fissures alone occur the same numerical decrease in depth may be observed. This phenomenon is probably due to the greater resistance which in greater depth the rock opposes to the fracturing forces.

*Propylitization.*—The country-rock of these lodes is almost invariably more or less altered,<sup>5</sup> such alteration, as indicated in Figs. 299 and 300, often continuing for a considerable width. This is all the more striking in that it is repeated faithfully in situations of the most varied geographical distribution. It is an interesting fact also that this alteration is not always accompanied by ore but, as illustrated in Fig. 305, it is also met where the fissure is either entirely, or almost free from ore. Not only has this alteration taken place in andesite, dacite, rhyolite, trachyte, phonolite, syenite, and diorite, the rocks associated with the lodes, but it has also been found in such rocks as have become involved by reason of their accidental proximity to them. The Jurassic melaphyre at Boicza in Transylvania has, according to Semper, suffered in this manner; and, according to Lindgren and Ransome, so also has the pre-Cambrian granite of Cripple Creek.

As is well known, the andesite of the Carpathians, altered in this manner, was in the 'sixties regarded by F. v. Richthofen as an independent eruptive rock which in his opinion was the oldest or first member of the Tertiary eruptives and by him accordingly named propylite, a name since retained to designate this altered rock, though it has long been established that the rock originally so termed was no new primary species but a secondary product.

Propylitization is not uniform in all districts. Propylite proper, —which according to Rosenbusch is a pathogenetic alteration particularly of andesite or andesite-dacite—is widely distributed. In its formation the original rock became bleached, friable, and impregnated more or

<sup>1</sup> Ransome, 1909.

<sup>2</sup> Steinmann, 1910.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 134.

<sup>4</sup> Lindgren and Ransome, 1906.

<sup>5</sup> Pilz, 1905, 1906.

mass with pyrite. In addition, new minerals were formed, chlorite, sericite, calcite, and epidote, particularly; quartz, adularia, etc., often; and kaolin occasionally. In this connection it is interesting to note that many of the white and clayey occurrences formerly regarded as kaolin, are, according to more recent investigation, in reality sericite.

In process of propylitization the ferro-magnesian silicates, augite, hornblende, biotite, etc., are decomposed earlier than the felspars. At decomposition they provide the material for the secondary formation of chlorite more particularly, but also of calcite, epidote, quartz, etc. Pyrite occurs enveloping or enclosed within the ferro-magnesian silicates, but often also in the place of original magnetite, the iron for its formation having been derived from original minerals, while the sulphur, as sulphuretted hydrogen or as an alkaline sulphide, entered with the mineralizing solution. The felspars are altered chiefly to sericite, though calcite, epidote, quartz, kaolin, etc., are formed to a less extent. In the case of dacite the quartz dihexahedra, in consequence of their greater resistance, are occasionally found unaltered in the resultant propylite.

The following analyses serve to emphasize the difference between propylitized and fresh rocks. Silica and alumina, where decomposition is not extreme, are not greatly displaced. Some magnesia always, and some phosphoric acid and titanitic acid often, are removed. Lime occasionally becomes diminished, though often, on the other hand, in consequence of the secondary presence of calcite, it is increased. Soda suffers invariably. Potash, in consequence of the formation of sericite or adularia, is generally increased, the increase being at times considerable. Although propylite without exception contains a good deal of pyrite, the total quantity of iron present is nevertheless usually less than in the original rock.

The silica content, owing to the removal of various bases, is occasionally found to be substantially higher. At times, not by the addition of silica but by the removal of bases, a porous rock remains, consisting chiefly of quartz. On the other hand, a considerable addition of silica resulting in the silicification of the rock sometimes takes place, as for instance at the Csetatye near Verespatak in Transylvania. At Tonopah also, the country-rock in the neighbourhood of the lodes is in places altered to a rock consisting chiefly of quartz with some sericite and adularia, while, farther away, calcite and some sericite are the principal secondarily-formed minerals.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Spurr, *loc. cit.*

## ORE-DEPOSITS

	Hornblende-Andesite.			Hornblende-Dacite.		
	Fresh.	Altered.		Fresh.	Altered.	
	1a.	1b.	1c.	2a.	2b.	2c.
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . .	57.42	57.99	58.98	63.45	61.78	76.61
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	17.61	17.59	11.21	15.26	14.89	8.31
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	2.34	1.56	1.45	2.28	2.08	1.08
FeO . . .	3.77	2.37	2.42	3.01	2.51	0.59
FeS <sub>2</sub> . . .	...	1.42	3.13	...	0.65	3.59
MnO . . .	0.43	0.21	0.11	0.36	0.28	0.11
MgO . . .	2.19	2.01	1.43	1.29	1.08	0.51
CaO . . .	5.69	5.45	8.11	3.44	3.16	3.61
Na <sub>2</sub> O . . .	3.22	1.98	0.61	2.21	2.18	0.29
K <sub>2</sub> O . . .	1.94	1.65	3.93	1.78	3.68	1.98
H <sub>2</sub> O . . .	3.47	3.45	3.69	4.00	4.94	1.51
TiO <sub>2</sub> . . .	0.68	0.51	0.11	0.75	0.69	0.28
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> . . .	0.31	0.35	0.06	0.29	0.30	0.11
CO <sub>2</sub> . . .	0.95	3.89	4.69	1.08	2.01	1.87
Totals . . .	100.02	100.43	99.93	99.20	100.23	100.45

The above analyses are of material from the Hauriki-Goldfield, New Zealand: No. 1 from Thames; No. 2 from Waihi; 1a, 2a are of fresh rock; 1b, 2b are of partly altered rock; 1c, 2c are of much altered rock.<sup>1</sup>

	Latite-Phonolite.		Granite.	
	Fresh.	Altered.	Fresh.	Altered.
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . .	59.38	56.74	66.20	59.58
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	19.47	20.30	14.33	16.00
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	1.60	1.06	2.09	0.30
FeO . . .	1.19	...	1.93	0.65
FeS <sub>2</sub> . . .	...	4.65	0.12	4.78
MgO . . .	0.36	0.23	0.89	0.03
CaO . . .	1.96	0.57	1.39	2.03
Na <sub>2</sub> O . . .	7.80	0.62	2.58	0.98
K <sub>2</sub> O . . .	5.83	13.36	7.31	11.93
H <sub>2</sub> O . . .	0.80	1.48	1.31	1.13
TiO <sub>2</sub> . . .	0.58	0.58	0.65	0.75
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> . . .	0.08	0.25	0.25	0.32
SO <sub>3</sub> . . .	0.37	...	...	...
Cl . . .	0.22	...	...	...
CO <sub>2</sub> . . .	...	...	0.36	0.26
Totals . . .	100.05	100.10	99.74	99.66

The above analyses are of material from Cripple Creek; the altered rocks here contain much sericite in addition to adularia.<sup>2</sup>

Propylitization was first closely investigated by G. F. Becker in 1883

<sup>1</sup> Finlayson, *Econ. Geol.* IV., 1909.

<sup>2</sup> Lindgren and Ransome, 1906.



in connection with the Comstock Lode, and by Béla v. Inkey in 1885 in connection with the occurrence at Nagyag. Since then W. Lindgren in a paper entitled *Metasomatic Processes in Fissure Veins*,<sup>1</sup> has discussed this subject, and descriptions of separate occurrences have appeared in recent years by Lindgren, Ransome, Spurr, etc., in connection with the Cripple Creek, Goldfield, Tonopah, and other gold-silver deposits in North America. Finlayson also has contributed to the subject in descriptions of Hauraki, New Zealand.

Besides propylite in the narrow sense of the term, there are in some cases other similarly formed alteration products. Sometimes, for instance, the decomposed rock on either side of a lode or fissure is remarkable for its richness in sericite and calcite. In other cases the sericite is accompanied by kaolin; in others again kaolin and alunite,  $K_2O.Al_2O_3.4SO_3.6H_2O$ , have become abundantly formed in the country-rock. A recent paper by Ransome<sup>2</sup> and a special report upon the Goldfield district<sup>3</sup> by the same authority, both deal fully with the formation of this last-named mineral. From the analyses Ia and IIa given below, and from determinations of specific gravity and of pore

	Dacite.		Content: Grammes per 100 cc. of Rock.	
	Fresh, Ia.	Altered, IIa.	Fresh, Ib.	Altered, IIb.
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	59.95	60.53	160.07	151.27
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	15.77	15.32	42.11	38.27
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	3.34	0.20	8.91	0.50
FeO . . . . .	2.34	0.14	6.23	0.35
FeS <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	0.00	7.20	0.00	18.00
MgO . . . . .	2.73	0.06	7.38	0.15
CaO . . . . .	5.84	0.41	15.57	1.02
Na <sub>2</sub> O . . . . .	3.07	0.84	8.21	2.09
K <sub>2</sub> O . . . . .	2.52	1.06	6.73	2.64
H <sub>2</sub> O { Below 110° C. . .	0.95	1.33	2.55	3.31
{ Above 110° C. . .	2.00	6.60	5.34	16.49
TiO <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	0.82	0.80	...	...
ZrO <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	0.02	0.01	...	...
CO <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> . . . . .	0.26	0.27	...	...
SO <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	0.00	5.97	0.00	14.91
F . . . . .	0.00	Trace	...	...
MnO . . . . .	0.09	Trace	...	...
BaO . . . . .	0.11	0.06	...	...
SiO . . . . .	0.13	...	...	...
Total . . . . .	99.94	100.80	263.00	240.00

<sup>1</sup> 'Genesis of Ore Deposits,' *Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* XXX. and XXXI., 1902.

<sup>2</sup> F. L. Ransome, 'The Association of Alunite with Gold in the Goldfield District, Nevada,' *Econ. Geol.* II., 1907.

<sup>3</sup> 1909, *loc. cit.*

volume, it is calculated that 100 cc. of fresh rock on the one hand, and of altered rock on the other, contain the weights of different minerals given in columns Ib and IIb respectively.

The altered rock of which the chemical composition is given in columns IIa and IIb, is calculated to consist mineralogically of :

49.38 per cent Quartz.	7.20 per cent Pyrite.
23.99 „ Kaolin.	2.53 „ Water.
15.73 „ Alunite.	1.17 „ Undetermined.

In some samples the presence of diaspore was established.

The quartz-alunite rock forms at times pseudomorphs after primary feldspar. During the process of alteration some silica and alumina, very much alkali, almost the whole of the lime and magnesia, and some iron, are removed. The greater part of the iron however goes to the formation of pyrite.<sup>1</sup>

Propylitization—not only in the narrow sense of the term but including also the alteration to sericite-calcite, quartz-kaolin-alunite, etc.—differs, as Lindgren conclusively demonstrated, essentially from surface-weathering, and is of such a character as may only be satisfactorily explained by the action of heated waters ascending in fissures. Such waters saturating the shattered and often somewhat porous country-rock were at times able to effect an alteration for distances as great as one kilometre or more on either side of the fissure. With flat-lying lodes, as illustrated in Figs. 299 and 300, the hanging-wall is usually more highly altered than the foot-wall, a result which expresses the endeavour of the solutions to take the shortest route to the surface.

From the iron content of the original rock, and by the action of sulphur contained in the heated waters either as sulphuretted hydrogen or as an alkaline sulphide, practically without exception pyrite became formed. The frequently observed abundant formation of calcite and carbonates postulates a content in carbonic acid which in many cases must have been high, though in other cases this acid was absent or nearly so. The increment of potassium, which occasionally is considerable, indicates at times an equally considerable amount of that element in these heavy-metal solutions. The secondary formation of alunite and selenite is due to the action of sulphuric acid, this acid, according to Ransome, having presumably resulted from the oxidation of the sulphuretted hydrogen in the solutions, by descending air. Under these conditions sulphurous acid may also sometimes have been formed.

In many instances payable ore has been found in the propylite.

*The Gangue-Minerals.*—The most widely distributed gangue-mineral in the young gold-, gold-silver-, silver-, and silver-lead lodes is quartz,

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 549.

which now and then is accompanied by chalcedony, and exceptionally by opal; calcite and dolomite generally occur to a less extent; siderite is found plentifully in some lodes in southern Spain, as for instance at Mazarron; barite is fairly common, though generally in but small amount; rhodochrosite is not uncommon, its occurrence having been particularly remarked in Hungary, North America, Mexico, and Japan; rhodonite has similarly deserved particular mention at Kapnik, Verespatak, at several places in Mexico; and in the Tertiary silver lodes at Butte, Montana; the occurrence of alabandite has been established at Nagyag, Kapnik, etc.; adularia occurs now and then;<sup>1</sup> while zeolites seldom occur.

Fluorite in most districts is completely absent, both from the lodes as well as from the propylitized country-rock, this being also the case with the other compounds of fluorine and of chlorine, except such minerals as cerargyrite, etc., the occurrence of which is limited to the oxidation zone. This absence shows that, like boron, fluorine and chlorine played little part in the formation of the lodes here being described. The exceptional occurrence of fluorite in the very rich telluride-gold district of Cripple Creek, where the gangue consists approximately of 60 per cent quartz, 20 per cent fluorite, and 20 per cent dolomite, is therefore all the more striking. Some fluorite with native gold and a little gold telluride is also found in the quartz lodes of the Judith Mountains, Montana.<sup>2</sup>

Against this exceptional occurrence however, is the fact that fluorite is absent both from the well-known Tertiary telluride gold mines of Transylvania as well as from the important telluride gold deposits of Western Australia; there can therefore be no regular association of fluorine and tellurium in the group of lodes being described. Further, the almost complete absence of fluorine is a feature common to both the young and the old gold lodes. In the case of the silver lodes, on the other hand, it is worthy of remark that the occurrence of fluorite in the old lodes is frequent, while in the young lodes it is either absent or present only as an exception.

*The Ores and the Relation between the Gold and the Silver.*—In the old gold lodes and the old silver- and silver-lead lodes the two precious metals usually occur apart. Although silver in small amount is almost always present in the old gold lodes, it is seldom that this amount is more than one-fifth to one-third of the gold present. Similarly, any gold content with the old silver- or silver-lead lodes is extremely small; for instance, at Kongsberg one part of gold is present for approximately 10,000 parts of silver, and at Freiberg for 5000–10,000 parts.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lindgren, 'Orthoclase a Gangue Mineral,' *Amer. Journ. Sc.* V., 1898; *U.S. Geol. Survey*, 20th Ann. Rep., 1900.

<sup>2</sup> Weed and Pirsson, *U.S. Geol. Survey*, 18th Ann. Rep. III., 1896–1897, pp. 445–614.

<sup>3</sup> Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1896, p. 389.

With the young gold lodes, on the other hand, it is often the case that the two metals occur in such measure that both are of economic importance. This is a feature of the occurrences in Hungary, of many places in the Great Basin of the United States, in Mexico, South America, Japan, Sumatra, and elsewhere. The relation between the two metals in some of the Hungarian mines may be gathered from the following figures : <sup>1</sup>

		One Part of Gold to Parts of Silver.	
Transylvania	Nagyag, Muczari, Verespatak . . . . .	about	1-0
	Boicza . . . . .	"	1.5-2.0
	Ruda . . . . .	"	2.0-3.0
	Kajanel, Main Lode . . . . .	"	10-0
	Kreuzberg . . . . .	"	10-0
	Borsabanya . . . . .	"	10.0-12.0
Carpathians	Nagybanya . . . . .	"	2.0-2.5
	Veresvir . . . . .	"	25.0-30.0
	Felsöbanya . . . . .	"	50.0-60.0
	Kapnik . . . . .	"	100-0
	Alt-Rodna . . . . .	"	150-0
	Kremnitz . . . . .	"	2.5-5.0
	Schemnitz, average . . . . .	"	50-0
	Schemnitz, some lodes . . . . .	"	6.8

For occurrences outside of Europe the following figures are illustrative :

		One Part of Gold to Parts of Silver.	
Nevada	Comstock . . . . .		22.5
	Tonopah . . . . .		100-0
Colorado	Custer Co. . . . .		45-0
	Clear Creek . . . . .		80-0
	Rico Mountains . . . . .		125-0
Idaho	Owyhee . . . . .		35-0
Japan	Numerous lodes . . . . .		5.0-100-0
Sumatra	Redjang Lebong . . . . .		10-0

In view of the variety of the relation between the two metals the lodes of the young gold-silver group may for convenience of description be divided as follows :

1. Gold lodes proper, containing little silver ; as for instance those of Cripple Creek with 1 of gold to 0.1 of silver ; those of Goldfield with 0.15 of silver ; many other lodes in North, South, and Central America, and in New Zealand, etc.
2. Gold-silver lodes, these being exceedingly well represented.
3. Silver lodes proper, these being well represented in Mexico, the United States, South America, etc.

With some of the young gold lodes the gold in its primary condition occurs either entirely, or to a large extent in the form of different compounds of tellurium and gold. In this respect Nagyag in Transylvania, with gold telluride exclusively and no primary native gold, is famous. On the

<sup>1</sup> Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1898, p. 388, and supplement.

other hand, many of the lodes in Transylvania carry gold telluride together with native gold, while most carry native gold with no gold telluride. Still more important are the rich telluride lodes of Cripple Creek, Colorado, including those of the Boulder district to the north and the Telluride district to the south-west. Nevertheless, even in Colorado, in most of the mining districts the lodes carry native gold only. Gold telluride occurs also in the lodes of the Black Hills, Dakota. Although therefore in many places gold telluride plays a prominent part in the young gold lodes, in the majority of cases the gold is either associated with pyrite or it occurs native.

Auriferous telluride also occurs plentifully in Western Australia, where however it has not yet been possible to state with certainty the age of the accompanying eruptive rocks.

Auriferous gravels in association with the young gold lodes, as will be further discussed when describing the occurrences in the United States, play but a very small part.

Selenium occurs fairly plentifully at Tonopah in Nevada, where one part of gold occurs for every 100 of silver; and at Redjang Lebong in Sumatra, where the silver content is ten times that of the gold; while it has also been observed in smaller amounts elsewhere. As already stated,<sup>1</sup> selenium and tellurium in this connection appear to mutually replace one another. Selenium also occurs occasionally in the old gold-silver lodes, as for instance in the gold-bismuth-selenium lodes at Fahlun.<sup>2</sup>

The silver occurs chiefly in the form of sulpho-salts, such as pyrrargyrite, proustite, stephanite, polybasite, tetrahedrite, etc.; or as argentite. Native silver as a primary deposit also occurs here and there.

The gold- and silver minerals in these lodes are accompanied by pyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, galena, and often also by arsenic-, antimony-, and bismuth minerals. In the young silver-lead lodes, auriferous galena is naturally well represented. Nickel- and cobalt minerals are extremely rare. The occurrence of tin in this connection is mentioned when describing the lodes of Bolivia.

The minerals present with the young gold-silver lodes are in general distinguished from those of the old lodes in that generally they include proportionally more sulpho-salts and other arsenic- and antimony minerals, and, exceptionally, even tin minerals.

*Division into Sub-Groups.*—According to the nature of the minerals present the young gold-silver lodes may be divided into a number of sub-groups. The following may thus be differentiated:

1. Telluride gold lodes with quartz, calcite, or dolomite, and much fluorite; as at Cripple Creek.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 83.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 166, 314.

2. Telluride gold lodes with calcite, rhodochrosite, quartz, etc., but with no fluorite; as at Nagyag.
3. Lodes with both telluride and native gold in the same quartz gangue; as at Offenbanya.
4. Lodes with native gold but without telluride, yet generally with some silver and small amounts of other ores. These are chiefly quartz lodes characterized by ordinary propylitization. Examples of such occur at Kremnitz, many in Transylvania, in the United States, in Mexico, in South America, Japan, Sumatra, etc. Some of these lodes carry selenium, when also traces of tellurium are generally found.
5. Lodes with native gold but without telluride, and with but little silver or other ores; quartz gangue; characterized by the alteration of the walls to alunite and kaolin; as at Goldfield in Nevada.
6. Gold-silver lodes carrying the two metals in such proportion that their values are roughly equal; with but little galena, though often some arsenic, antimony, etc.; and with quartz as chief gangue-mineral. The most famous of such lodes is the Comstock Lode of Nevada. At Tonopah, comparatively speaking, much selenium occurs.
7. Gold-silver-lead lodes with the two precious metals having approximately equal value; with much galena and other ores; and with quartz as the principal gangue; as some lodes at Schemnitz and elsewhere.
8. Silver lodes with little gold or galena; with quartz again as principal gangue-mineral; as numerous lodes in Mexico and elsewhere.
9. Lead-silver lodes with little gold but with much galena; with quartz as chief gangue-mineral; as several lodes in the Schemnitz district and numerous occurrences in Mexico and South America.
10. Galena lodes with a relatively low silver content—1–3 kg. per ton—and practically without gold; as at Mazarron in Spain, where siderite is the characteristic gangue-mineral.
11. Silver lodes with relatively much copper, as at El Pasco in Peru.
12. Silver lodes with tin ores, as in Bolivia.

If in addition the relative abundance of calcite and barite were taken into account, a still greater sub-division might be made.

Mineralogically and metallurgically all these sub-groups differ markedly from one another in the relative proportions of gold, silver, lead, as well as

copper, zinc, tin, etc. Too much importance should however not be attached to this difference, because often in one and the same limited district the individual lodes may show considerable fluctuations in this respect, and also because different sub-groups may occur quite close together. In this connection the Schemnitz district is particularly interesting, though in spite of all the variety in the sub-groups there present, it is probable that all in their main features were formed by the same chemical-geological processes.

It must further be added that the well-defined and geologically allied groups occurring within one metal province often differ widely from one another in their mineralogical and metallurgical relations. For instance, the lodes in Transylvania with gold telluride, those with telluride and native gold, and those with native gold without telluride but with some silver, are quite distinct from one another. In the Schemnitz-Kremnitz district where the two towns so named are situated but 25 km. apart, the sub-groups Nos. 4, 7, and 8 are all represented. Similarly in Colorado representatives of Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 are found. The two districts of Goldfield and Tonopah, though geologically so similar and but 45 km. apart, nevertheless differ materially in the proportion of gold to silver, and in the alteration of the country-rock; at Goldfield, No. 5 only, with 1 of gold to 0.15 of silver, is represented; at Tonopah, No. 6, with 1 part of gold to 100 parts of silver.

Instances of geologically, mineralogically, and metallurgically differing sub-groups occurring at small distance from one another or even in close spacial connection, are numerous.

For these reasons, and unlike the Freiberg school and the textbooks of Beck and Stelzner-Bergeat, we have not based our classification upon the above-mentioned sub-groups, but have taken the view that geological uniformity and relationship are more important factors, though naturally at the same time the metal- and mineral combinations have been given due consideration.

*Primary and Secondary Depth-Zones.*—Many of the Tertiary gold-silver lodes are remarkable for their great richness, this having been strikingly the case in North, Central, and South America. In the upper levels particularly, enormous bodies of silver-, silver-gold-, and gold ores have sometimes been found. With the silver lodes these bonanzas in the great majority of cases represented local enrichment in the oxidation zone, when to the happy circumstance of their occurrence was added the fact that such silver ores were amenable to treatment by the simplest of metallurgical processes. From such occurrences the fabulous amounts of silver produced by Mexico, Bolivia, and Peru, in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, were derived. Enrichment in the cementation zone, otherwise so

frequent, appears with these lodes to play but a small part. According to Lindgren and Ransome, both of whom were well acquainted with the sulphide enrichment in the Butte district, a similar zone of enrichment is wanting at Cripple Creek and at Goldfield; while Steinmann, in reference to the silver lodes at Potosi, Oruro, and El Pasco in South America, remarks that these either have no cementation zone or one of but little importance.

A large concentration of metal in the cementation zone demands the presence of considerable quantities of sulphide ores to provide by oxidation the ferric sulphate necessary to dissolve the gold, silver, copper, etc. Such conditions are found with many deposits, but do not exist at Cripple Creek, Goldfield, and other occurrences belonging to the young gold-silver group.

Krusch, with respect to the lodes of Western Australia, observed that, just as at Cripple Creek, the oxidation zone there ends immediately above the primary zone, and he suspected that the absence of a cementation zone in this case might be connected with the presence of tellurium.

With many of those Tertiary gold- and silver lodes which were extraordinarily rich at first, it was the subsequent experience that in the primary zone and in depth the metal content diminished. This was remarkably the case at Potosi in Bolivia,<sup>1</sup> and with many other deposits in South America and Mexico. At Cripple Creek also and at Goldfield, an impoverishment of the gold began in depth as the primary zone was entered. In several districts—Potosi, Cripple Creek, Mazarron, for instance—it has also been particularly remarked that not only does the number of lodes decrease in depth but also the amount of metal contained per square metre upon the lode plane. In the very richest districts particularly, the bulk of the metal appears to have been deposited at depths less than 500 m. below the surface. Much of this afterwards became removed by erosion, though at the same time a considerable portion migrated downwards and was there retained. It is from such enrichments in the oxidation zone that the tremendous quantities of silver were obtained.

Primary variation in depth has received expression in the case of some of the richest of these lodes by obvious impoverishment as depth was attained; while in other cases it has been marked by the occurrence of other ores. For instance at the El Pasco silver mine in Peru the copper content materially increases in depth; with many silver mines in Mexico, etc., sphalerite, or sphalerite and galena increase in depth, while the silver diminishes.

The valuable contents of these lodes are also often found concentrated in ore-shoots, this having been particularly the case at Comstock.<sup>2</sup> Such

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 578.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 529.



accumulations of ore appear however to be primary; whether secondary processes contributed to their formation has not yet been established.

*The Economic Importance of the Young Gold-Silver Lodes.*—As discussed in a later section, these lodes have latterly yielded more than one-half of the annual silver production of the world and roughly one-fourth that of the gold. Figures of total production in the case of the best known of these deposits are given below, in addition to which other similar figures have already been given.<sup>1</sup>

Potosi, Bolivia, since 1545, about 30,000 tons of silver, worth about 300 million sterling.

Guanajuato, Mexico, since 1558, about 15,000 tons of silver, worth about 160 million sterling.

Zacatecas, Mexico, 1548–1832, about 14,000 tons of silver, worth about 150 million sterling.

Comstock, Nevada, 1859–1902, silver and gold, worth about 77 million sterling.

Cripple Creek, Colorado, 1891–1910, about 330 tons of gold, worth about 46 million sterling.

Pachuca, Mexico, 1522–1901, more than 3500 tons of silver, worth more than 31 million sterling.

Chañarcillo, Chili, since 1832, silver worth about 22 million sterling, or according to other data about 60 million sterling.

St. Eulalia, Mexico, 1703–1890, silver, etc., worth some 27 million sterling.

Fresnillo, Mexico, from 1833 to 1863 only, 902 tons of silver, worth some 8 million sterling.

Cripple Creek has of late years produced about 22 tons of gold, worth about 3 million sterling, annually; and Goldfield in Nevada, gold worth about 1·5 million sterling. Tonopah in 1908 produced 223 tons of silver valued at £900,000, and gold to the value of £340,000, making a total of about £1,240,000. In 1877, when work on the Comstock Lode was at its zenith, the total value of the gold and silver produced was about 7·5 million sterling.

*The Relation to other Groups of Deposits.*—The young gold-silver lodes occur chiefly within volcanic vents and in the immediately surrounding country-rock. They are characterized by an intense metamorphism of that rock, and were deposited at no great depth below the surface. Such is their geological circumstance.

The old gold-, silver-, and silver-lead lodes, on the other hand, represent fissure-fillings unaccompanied as a rule by any such alteration of the country-rock, though now and then a secondary formation of calcite and

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 202, 478.

sericite quite different from propylitization may be noticed. Further, the considerable continuance of the gold- and silver content in depth indicates that deposition took place at considerable depths below the surface. The young and the old lodes therefore differ from each other much as do the intrusive and the extrusive rocks, though no sharp demarcation between the two exists.

With the young quicksilver deposits the young gold-silver lodes have this in common, that both groups are connected with young and chiefly Tertiary eruptions. In some districts the two groups occur in close spacial connection; the Mexican and Peruvian gold-silver- and quicksilver deposits, for instance, are found in the same mountain ranges; while the Comstock Lode with its recent hot springs lies only some 9-10 km. distant from the quicksilver deposits of Steamboat Springs.<sup>1</sup> The young quicksilver deposits not infrequently possess a small silver- or gold content,<sup>2</sup> and cinnabar has here and there been found in the young gold-silver deposits, as, for instance, at Schemnitz, Nagyag, Cripple Creek, Goldfield, etc. No deposits have however yet been found in which both gold-silver ore and quicksilver ore occur together and of like importance, and the two groups of deposit therefore, in spite of their common association with young eruptive rocks, are quite distinct.

The relation of the young gold-silver lodes to the copper lodes is explained when describing the Butte district. There, in Tertiary granite or quartz-monzonite, rich copper lodes with one part of silver to 400 of copper occur associated with silver lodes, these latter having the same character as those associated with flows and dykes.

The relations with, and differences between the silver-tin lodes of Bolivia and the ordinary tin deposits characterized by fluorine minerals, are dealt with when describing the Bolivian lodes.

The same Tertiary eruptive rocks as those with which the young gold-silver lodes are associated, have here and there also formed contact-deposits, wherein as a rule auriferous and argentiferous copper- and lead-zinc ores occur together with garnet and wollastonite. A very instructive example of this is found at Offenbanya in Transylvania, this occurrence being illustrated in Fig. 49. In this connection the silver-gold deposit of Elkhorn in Montana, and others in Mexico, are deserving of mention. Sometimes also metasomatic deposits occur in the neighbourhood of these young eruptive rocks, such deposits being more particularly of lead, zinc, and silver. Examples of these are found at Mazarron-Cartagena in Spain,<sup>3</sup> and at several places in the United States.

*Genesis of the Young Gold-Silver Lodes.*—The spacial connection with

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 487.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 458.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 547.

tertiary or sometimes late Cretaceous eruptives, the occurrence of hot springs and gas exhalations at or near the lodes, and the propylitization of the country-rock, justify, as has already been stated, the conclusion that the deposition of the ore and gangue of these lodes took place from heated waters closely associated with actual eruption. The considerable width of rock observed at times to have suffered propylitization indicates that these waters were present in considerable volume; doubtless therefore they contained the precious metals in great dilution. The minerals present, and particularly the calcite, sericite, chlorite, epidote, kaolin, and alunite of the propylitized rock, show that the solutions were chiefly of an aqueous nature, and consequently that at the time of deposition the critical temperature of water,  $365^{\circ}\text{C}$ ., was not passed. It is interesting to note in this connection that Lindgren and Ransome in 1906 estimated the temperature of the waters from which the Cripple Creek ores were deposited at  $100^{\circ}$ – $200^{\circ}$ , and the pressure at about 100 atmospheres.

The secondary formation of pyrite observable everywhere in propylite indicates in the solutions a sulphur content in the form of sulphuretted hydrogen, alkaline sulphides, etc., while the frequent though not invariable occurrence of secondary calcite and other carbonates indicates that carbonic acid must in many cases also have been present. That proportionally much more lime and magnesia than alkali became removed during propylitization may be because the solutions usually carried alkaline salts. In many cases a considerable addition of potassium has been demonstrated to have resulted, indicating a not inconsiderable potassium content for the particular solutions.

The formation of alunite, that is alunitization, is due to the action of sulphuric acid, such acid having resulted from the oxidation of sulphuretted hydrogen or alkaline sulphides;<sup>1</sup> the presence of secondary selenite may be similarly explained. On the other hand, the generally very sparing occurrence of barite and celestine probably indicates that the solutions originally, that is before such oxidation, usually contained but few  $\text{SO}_4$ -ions.

The generally complete absence of fluorite and other primary fluorides and chlorides indicates either that the ions of these halogens were absent from the solutions, or that they were present in but small amount. The exceptional occurrence of fluorite at Cripple Creek is explained by Lindgren and Ransome not by the presence of free hydrofluoric acid, but by a small amount of alkaline fluoride in the solutions; sodium fluoride and potassium fluoride attack lime silicates with the formation of fluorite which is extremely difficult of solution in water.

By far the most important gangue-mineral is quartz, and the solutions

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 522.

accordingly invariably carried silica, though it is not yet known in what combination; probably it occurred as hydrated silicic acid,  $\text{H}_4\text{SiO}_4$ , or a soluble silicate such as  $\text{K}_4\text{SiO}_4$ . With few exceptions the quartz is exclusively deposited in the fissures and not in the metasomatically altered country-rock, this fact indicating that the amount of silica in the solutions was generally comparatively low. Several authorities—Becker in his quicksilver monograph<sup>1</sup> and Lindgren and Ransome in their paper upon Cripple Creek,<sup>2</sup>—suggest that the silica was present in colloidal form, the rock walls then acting towards it as a semi-permeable membrane, allowing it to diffuse with difficulty into the country-rock, while the ordinarily -ionized salts were allowed a free entry. This view however appears very questionable.

Some pyrite is always found in these gold-silver lodes though the amount is generally low. It is sometimes accompanied by marcasite. The iron content of the pyrite in the propylite is derived chiefly, if not exclusively, from the iron originally present in the rock;<sup>3</sup> the amount of iron contained in the solutions, in spite of the wide distribution of the pyrite, was therefore probably quite low. The same may be said of the manganese.

With many of these lodes the sulpho-salts, such as tetrahedrite, pyrargyrite, proustite, stephanite, etc., occur in relatively large amount, which may be because arsenic and antimony were present in the solutions as alkaline sulpho-salts.

*Résumé of Foregoing Considerations.*—Propylitization and the nature of the lode material together indicate that the solutions from which they resulted originally carried, little silica and iron; generally some carbonic acid; invariably much sulphur, either as sulphuretted hydrogen or alkaline sulphide; often much potassium; and frequently sulpho-salts in appreciable amount. It follows therefore that they were either neutral or alkaline, but not acid. The silica accordingly probably entered the fissures as an alkaline salt such as  $\text{K}_4\text{SiO}_4$  and not in the colloidal form. The solutions naturally were very dilute and of different composition in different fissures.

While the old lead-zinc-silver lodes often exhibit a crusted or combed structure indicating that the solutions rising at different times were of different composition, this structure is either absent from the young lodes or is but seldom developed; the constant or almost constant composition of the solutions in any one fissure thereby suggested, is in harmony with the idea of a large volume.

<sup>1</sup> Becker, 'Quicksilver,' *U.S. Geol. Survey, Min. Resources*, 1892, p. 156.

<sup>2</sup> Lindgren and Ransome, Cripple Creek, 1906.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 522.

Among other properties silver is soluble as nitrate, as double thio-sulphate with alkali, and as double cyanide with alkali, though such solutions probably play little part in ore-deposition. Chlorides convert silver salts into silver chloride, which is easily soluble in an excess of the particular chloride, sodium chloride for instance; this property in particular cases may have been of great importance in the redistribution of the silver in the oxidation and cementation zones. It is probable, however, that at the primary deposition of the silver in these lodes some other silver compound was present, as the absence of chlorine minerals indicates that chlorides were not well represented in the original solutions. Silver is further soluble as sulphate,  $\text{Ag}_2\text{SO}_4$ ; as  $\text{AgHCO}_3$ , in carbonic acid water;<sup>1</sup> and in an excess of ferrous salts, etc.

Gold is soluble in liquids containing chlorine; in hydrochloric acid when either chromic acid, selenic acid, antimonie acid, or arsenic acid is present; in bromine, alkaline cyanides, ferric sulphate, etc. Ferrous sulphate on the other hand is a well-known precipitant of gold. As already mentioned, the iron sulphates are of the greatest importance in the development of the phenomena characteristic of the oxidation and cementation zones. The solubility of gold in alkaline sulphides as a double sulphy-salt is interesting.<sup>2</sup> Under the application of high pressure gold is also soluble in sodium- and potassium silicates; and at about 200° C., in moderately strong sodium carbonate solution.<sup>3</sup>

In the solutions from which these lodes were formed the gold was probably in very great dilution. The content in the lode material is only in exceptional cases more than 50 grm. per ton, equivalent to 0.005 per cent. If it be reckoned that the lode material amounts to 1 per cent of the weight of the depositing solution, which is placing it high, then the gold content in this solution would be 0.00005 per cent; in all probability it was even considerably less.

Concerning the nature of the solutions these were generally complex, with many cations and anions, while possibly colloids also were present. In solutions of bicarbonates—and for gold, in those of alkaline silicates and alkaline sulphy-salts also—gold and silver may be present in appreciable amount. From these solutions the silver would be precipitated chiefly as sulphide, but also as a sulphy-salt; the sulphide might be independent silver sulphide or this sulphide contained in galena. The gold would be extremely readily precipitated when the solutions came in contact with pyrite or other sulphide ore,<sup>4</sup> which is doubtless the reason that pyrite

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 136, 219.

<sup>2</sup> G. F. Becker, *Amer. Journ. Sc.*, 1887, XXXIII. p. 199; Liversidge, *loc. cit.*

<sup>3</sup> Bischof, *Lehrbuch der chem. phys. Geol.* 2nd edit. III. pp. 838, 843; Liversidge, *Roy. Soc.*, New South Wales; Dölter, *Monatsbericht*, II. p. 149, etc.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 136.

is so often auriferous. The precipitation of the gold as telluride may result from reactions similar to those which precipitate silver, lead, etc., as sulphides.

Though the above considerations relative to the deposition of the ore in these lodes are well based, further synthetical experiments are highly desirable in order to obtain a better idea of the conditions under which such deposition took place.

The ultimate source of the gold and silver has been the subject of discussion for many years. The theories of ascension, descension, and lateral secretion, have already been discussed,<sup>1</sup> and are further discussed in a later chapter. With regard to the young gold-silver lodes it must be emphasized that these were formed by the heated waters circulating towards the close of that period of eruption which, generally speaking, took place in Tertiary time. It is therefore to a certain extent justifiable to consider that these waters together with their metal content were derived directly from eruptive magma. With the advancing cooling and crystallization of that magma the residual magmatic aqueous solutions continued to become more and more charged with CO<sub>2</sub>, etc., till as the final stage of the eruption they issued as hot springs. These in their course through the already consolidated crust would supposedly take up certain constituents, which would become more and more concentrated in them. According to Lindgren and Ransome,<sup>2</sup> the hot springs of Cripple Creek on their way through granite existing in depth, took up alkaline fluoride from fluorite occurring within that granite, and deposited this again as fluorite in the lodes above. In this way is explained the unique position among the young gold-silver lodes, occupied by the gold occurrences of Cripple Creek by reason of the fluorite they contain. It is not necessary to assume that all the minerals found deposited in these lodes were derived from the eruptive magma; some material may more conceivably have been derived by lateral secretion in the widest sense of that term; and some again by the leaching action of the waters along their course.

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<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 189, 190.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.* 531.

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The Carpathians form that circle of hills which, incomplete towards the south-west, connects the Alps with the mountain land of the Balkan Peninsula. These hills, formed in Tertiary times, are arranged in a large number of scattered groups in broken connection with one another.

The geological structure is as follows: the oldest crystalline rocks form a number of isolated complexes surrounded to a large extent by Triassic, Rhaetic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous beds, and to a less extent by Devonian, Carboniferous, and Permian. Enveloping all of these is an upland of undisturbed Tertiary beds with which, particularly within the Carpathian circle, extensive young eruptive areas are associated.

The most important of these Tertiary eruptive areas are:

1. The district of Schemnitz-Kremnitz in the western portion of the Carpathians.

2. That in the vicinity of Kaschau.
3. That in the neighbourhood of Ungvár.
4. That around Nagybanya, Felsöbanya, and Kapnik, in the central portion of the mountain chain.
5. The eastern portion of Transylvania near the Roumanian frontier.
6. The Transylvanian Erzgebirge.

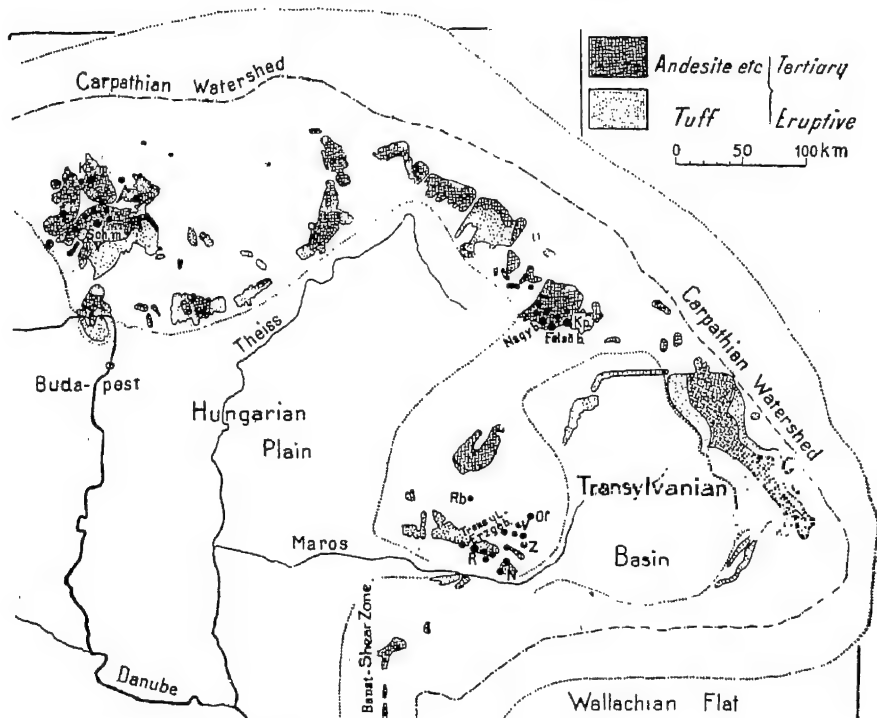


FIG. 292.—Map of the more important Tertiary eruptive areas and gold-silver lodes of Hungary and Transylvania.

Schm, Schemnitz; Krm, Kremnitz; Nagy, Nagybanya; Fels, Felsöbanya; Kp, Kapnik; Of, Offenbanya; V, Verespatak; Z, Zalatna; N, Nagyag; R, Ruda; Rb, Rezbanya. The dotted line represents the boundary between mountain and plain.

Among the Tertiary eruptive rocks, andesite and dacite have the widest distribution, after which come rhyolite, obsidian, and basalt, while trachyte in the usual sense of this term, and phonolite, are absent. In the deep-cut Hodritz valley near Schemnitz the Tertiary magma is seen consolidated as an hyp-abyssal plutonic rock, diorite or grano-diorite.

For the district of Schemnitz-Kremnitz, H. v. Böckh<sup>1</sup> gives the following eruptive sequence beginning with the oldest: pyroxene-andesite, diorite

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*



with grano-diorite, biotite-amphibole-andesite, and finally rhyolite. These rocks formed together one connected outpouring of which the time of maximum outbreak was Lower and Middle Miocene. Much younger in

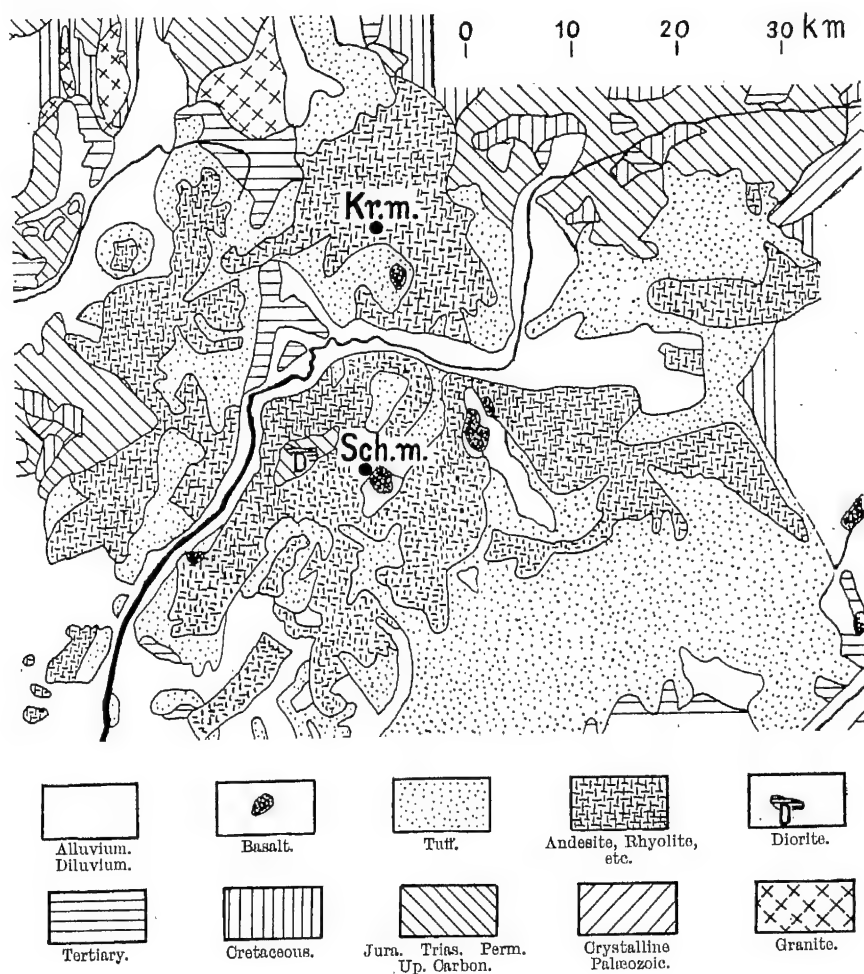


FIG. 293.—Geological map of the Tertiary eruptive district of Schemnitz-Kremnitz.  
*Hungarian Geological Survey.*  
*Schm*, Schemnitz; *Krm*, Kremnitz.

age was the extrusion of basalt, the youngest rock in the vicinity of Schemnitz and there but poorly represented. The eruption of the andesite and dacite at Nagybanya continued from Middle Miocene to the Sarmatian horizon of the Upper Miocene, or, at some places, even to

the Pliocene; and in Transylvania, from the Upper Cretaceous right through to the Sarmatian.

The Hungarian gold-silver lodes are, spacially as well as genetically, most closely associated with these young eruptives. The most important mining districts are those of Schemnitz-Kremnitz, Nagybanya-Felsöbanya:

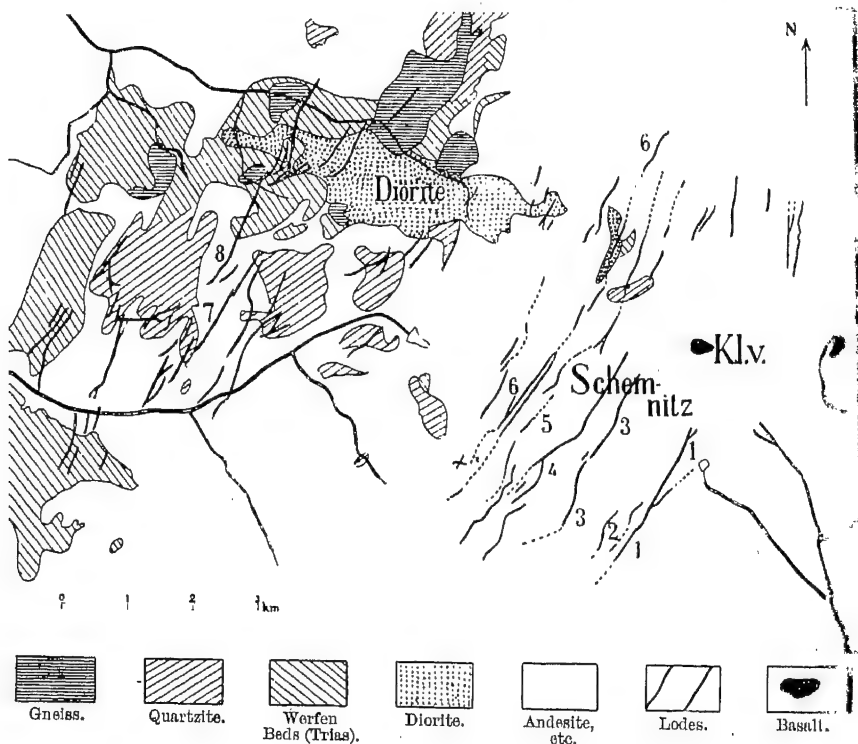


FIG. 294.—Map of the Schemnitz district. J. Szábo, 1883. The white areas consist preponderatingly of different andesites.

1, Grüner lode; 2, Stephan lode; 3, Johann lode; 4, Spital lode; 5, Biber lode; 6, Theresa lode; 7, Brenner lode; 8, Elisabeth lode; Klv. basalt sheet on the Kalvarienberg.

Kapnik, and the Transylvanian Erzgebirge. The total gold and silver production of Austria-Hungary since 1493, statistics of which year are the earliest available, has been as follows:

	Silver.	Gold.	Authority.
1493-1875	7770 tons	460,600 kg.	Soetbeer
1875-1900	1247 „	54,558 „	Neumann

Of these amounts somewhat more than one-half of the silver and the greater part of the gold were derived from the above-mentioned Hungarian districts, from whence in addition during the eight years 1901–1908 further amounts of 137,161 kg. of silver and 27,930 kg. of gold were obtained, of which latter amount 20,213 kg. came from Transylvania. These Hungarian mines consequently during the period 1493–1908 produced some 5000 tons of silver and roughly 500 tons of gold, beside which many of them were worked at an earlier period, long before statistics were instituted.

The silver production of Hungary decreased from 23,636 kg. in 1901 to 12,612 kg. in 1908. The gold production on the other hand has kept fairly regularly between 3250 and 3500 kg. per year, some 2250–2700 kg. of which come from Transylvania.

The Hungarian production during the year 1907 was contributed to by the various districts as follows :

	Gold.	Silver.	Lead.
	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.
Schemnitz . . . .	114	4541	351
Kremnitz . . . .	27	78	...
Nagybanya . . . .	687	1712	8
Felsőbanya . . . .	37	1857	769
Kapnik . . . . .	19	1651	206
Transylvania, including :	2537	...	...
Nagyag . . . . .	84	195	...

Of the above figures for Transylvania, 1713 kg. of gold were returned by the Ruda-12-Apostles' mine.

*Schemnitz and Kremnitz* about 25 km. farther north, belong to the same eruptive area. In the middle of the Tertiary period there was here a large volcano of approximately the present size of Etna, which volcano subsequently suffered erosion to such an extent that in the Hodritz valley, as mentioned before, diorite and grano-diorite representing that portion of the magma which consolidated in depth, are now exposed. In the vicinity of Schemnitz there is according to H. v. Böckh the following sequence of formations :

Triassic : Werfen beds ; limestone ; and quartzite.

Eocene : Nummulitic beds.

Miocene : Pyroxene-andesite tuff, the oldest ; pyroxene-andesite, 56 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$  ; augite-diorite, 60 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ , with grano-diorite, 67 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and aplite dykes ; biotite-amphibole-andesite tuff ; biotite-amphibole andesite, 56 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$  ; rhyolite tuff ; and finally, rhyolite with 77.5 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ .

Pliocene : Basalt.

Diluvium and Alluvium.

In this neighbourhood post-volcanic effects are still represented by solfataras, mofettes, fumaroles, and hot springs, these last often being used as medicinal baths. The lodes traverse the older beds and the Miocene eruptives, but not the basalt, than which consequently they are older. They are roughly parallel to one another and have a north-north-east strike, while the most important occur within an area about 12 km. long and 10–11 km. wide. By far the greater number are found in andesite, only a few being found in the Hodritz diorite and other rocks. In the adjacent sandy and slaty sediments the fissures quickly split up and disappear.

The lode material consists in greater part of quartz, in which numerous highly propylitized fragments of the country-rock are scattered. Composite lodes appear frequently, indicating that the lode fissure had in places been re-opened and re-filled repeatedly, the so-called Schemnitz *Blätter* or layers being thus formed. Of these in any lode-system the oldest are the ore-bearing quartzose layers, and the youngest the clayey layers consisting of triturated and decomposed material and carrying but little ore. In this manner large lode widths reaching as much as 15–20 m. or more, were formed; the payable width however is usually much smaller, being generally between 1.5 m. and 5 metres.

The andesite on both walls is generally propylitized for a width of 10–20 m. and occasionally for as much as 100 m., though in the Hodritz diorite this alteration continues for but 5–10 metres. In addition, the rocks in the neighbourhood of the lodes are much decomposed and here and there even altered to a soft kaolin-like mass. Sometimes also silicification of the country-rock may be observed.

As already mentioned, quartz is the most important gangue-mineral; it often occurs as the variety amethyst. Calcite, mangano-calcite  $\text{CaMn}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ , and other carbonates; some barite; and some zeolites, are also found. Fluorite is practically absent, this being also the case with most of the other Hungarian young gold-silver lodes with the exception of those at Kapnik-Felsöbanya. The *Zinopel* of the Schemnitz lodes is an intimate mixture of quartz and specularite.

The most important ore-minerals are argentite, stephanite, galena, polybasite, pyrargyrite, proustite, tetrahedrite, etc.; less important are sphalerite, pyrite, marcasite, and chalcopyrite. Native silver is occasionally found as secondary moss or wire upon argentite, just as at Kongsberg. Native gold is sometimes visible to the naked eye, though generally it is too finely distributed to be seen. Cinnabar, though seldom, does occasionally occur. Stibnite, the occurrence of which at Kremnitz is so pronounced,

is at Schemnitz practically absent ; while tetrahedrite, which at Kapnik plays so important a part, is insignificant at Schemnitz. Secondary minerals such as pyromorphite, cerussite, etc., are found in large amount.

The ore is practically free from nickel, cobalt, bismuth, and tin ; arsenic is but poorly represented, though antimony, from the occurrence of the sulpho-salts, is more abundant. A small amount of copper is won as a by-product in treatment. Sphalerite occurs in such small amount that it cannot be separated by concentration.

The variability of the relation between gold, silver, and lead, is striking. In this district no fewer than four sub-groups may be differentiated, these being as follows :

1. Silver lodes containing stephanite, pyrargyrite, proustite, argentite, polybasite, etc., with a relatively low gold content and almost free from galena. The gold amounts to about 10-14 parts per 1000 parts of silver. Such lodes, as for instance the Alt Antonienstollen and the Einigkeit lodes, occur in the Hodritz diorite, from which they continue into the adjacent andesite. They carry quartz and some calcite and are mostly from 0.25 m. to 3 m. in width.

2. The Grüner lode of quartz carrying silver ore fairly rich in gold, but with little galena. In the upper levels the proportion of gold was only some 12 parts per 1000 of silver, a proportion which in greater depth rose to 140, the value of the gold being then substantially higher than that of the silver. Although this lode is several kilometres long, the rich ore is limited to certain shoots. At a depth of about 400 m. one such ore-shoot was 200 m. long and 1-2 m. wide.

3. The Johann lode containing galena and stephanite chiefly and characterized by the presence of *Zinopel*.

4. The Spitaler lode carrying galena chiefly, some sphalerite, and but little silver mineral, etc. Owing to the number of layers, the width of this lode rises in places to 20 m., and exceptionally to 40 m., though seldom more than 5 m. is payable. This lode in relation to the mineralization, the minerals present, and its brecciated structure, presents a striking resemblance to some of the Clausthal lodes.

The lodes mentioned under groups 2, 3, and 4 occur chiefly in andesite.

At Schemnitz there are accordingly represented : lodes with silver minerals but almost without galena ; lodes with auriferous silver minerals and some galena ; lodes intermediate between the two foregoing groups ; and finally, lodes in which galena preponderates and but little silver or gold is contained. These are all more or less of the same age ; in any case no such sequence of relative age as is possible for instance at Freiberg, can be established. Similarly, no rules concerning ore-shoots or enrichment at junctions or intersections have been possible of formulation.

The average ratio of the metals to one another in the Schemnitz mines belonging to the Hungarian Crown, has of late been one part of gold to 40-50 of silver, and one of silver to 80 parts of lead, these figures pertaining to the ore won after the drop in the price of silver had caused the lodes relatively rich in gold to receive greater attention.

Mining operations at Schemnitz are extremely old having presumably been begun some time before the year 750. About the year 1600 there were already more than 400 mines in operation. The Joseph II. Adit, 16,538 m. long, was begun in 1782 and finished in 1878. The mines have now reached a maximum depth of some 700 metres. They employ 2500 miners. Since the fall in the price of silver at the commencement of the 'nineties they have been worked at considerable loss, the average yearly loss during the period 1903-1907 having been about £46,000.

The auriferous quartz lodes of Kremnitz likewise occur in propylitized andesite. They too are often developed as composite lodes, reaching then a width of 10-15 m., while the numerous simple lodes are generally but 1-2 m. wide. The gold is seldom visible to the naked eye. Among the ore-minerals, pyrite and stibnite are common, while galena is almost completely absent. Operations in this district, which began in the twelfth century or perhaps even before, have latterly declined to a considerably smaller scale, recent figures of production having been only 27-46 kg. of gold and 76-141 kg. of silver annually, that is, one part of gold to 2.5-3 parts of silver.

*Nagybanya, Felsöbanya, and Kapnik* belong to one and the same eruptive area, which, as illustrated in Fig. 292, consists chiefly of andesite and to a less extent of rhyolite. Felsöbanya lies about 9 km. and Kapnik about 35 km. to the east of Nagybanya. In spite of these relatively small distances from one another the nature of the ore at these three places and the character of the lodes, differ considerably. At Nagybanya the lodes consist chiefly of auriferous quartz with some silver minerals, pyrargyrite particularly; the production of late years has varied between 600-687 kg. of gold, 1219-1712 kg. of silver, and but 6-10 tons of lead per year; the relation between gold and silver is as 1 of gold to 2-2.5 of silver. At Felsöbanya silver-lead lodes carrying some gold occur; the production of late has been 37-51 kg. of gold, 1857-2579 kg. of silver, and 768-1064 tons of lead per year; or 1 part of gold to 50-60 parts of silver. Kapnik is characterized by silver-lead-zinc lodes containing comparatively little gold; recent figures of production have been 15-24 kg. of gold, 1651-2405 kg. of silver, and 206-296 tons of lead per year; or 1 part of gold to 90-120 parts of silver.

The lodes of any one district are usually found to be more or less parallel, and all have quartz as principal lode-filling; at Kapnik in addition

there is much fluorite. These lodes generally are known for the variety of minerals contained, many of which are often beautifully crystallized. Prominent among these minerals are, rhodochrosite, barite, rhodinite, tetrahedrite, stibnite, bournonite, jamesonite, freieslebenite, etc., and sometimes, though seldom, wolframite.

Mining here also is likewise extremely old, having been begun about the end of the eleventh century, or even before. Most of the mines belong to the State. The distribution of other gold-silver lodes in the Carpathians, such as are no longer worked, is indicated in Fig. 292.

The *Transylvanian Erzgebirge* contains the most important gold occurrence in Europe. The auriferous area, with Offenbanya, Zalátna, Nagyag, and Karacs at its corners,<sup>1</sup> has a length of about 55 km. and a maximum width of about 33 km. It consists of a core of Archaean rocks over which are spread: melaphyre and Jurassic limestone; Carpathian sandstone of Cretaceous, and perhaps also in part of early Eocene age; and finally, Tertiary sediments and tuffs, chiefly Miocene. With these last are associated Tertiary eruptives, chiefly andesite and dacite and to a less extent rhyolite, these forming a number of detached areas, most of which are small.

Minerally, the occurrence at Nagyag is particularly characterized by the occurrence of gold in combination with tellurium<sup>2</sup> in the form of sylvanite, nagyagite, some petzite and krennerite. At Offenbanya<sup>3</sup> some lodes carry their gold exclusively as tellurides, sylvanite chiefly but also nagyagite; others contain both tellurides and native gold; while others again contain native gold only. In other Transylvanian mines gold tellurides, as well as the other tellurides, hessite, tetradyomite, tellurite, and native tellurium, occur only as curiosities; in fact in most of the lodes, including those which are most productive, gold telluride is completely absent, and free gold only occurs. About nineteen-twentieths of the present gold production of Transylvania is derived from free gold, and only the one remaining part from tellurides, this coming almost entirely from Nagyag.

The gold is generally accompanied by a number of silver minerals, such as argentite, pyrrargyrite, proustite, stephanite, native silver, etc.; by pyrite, galena, and sphalerite; by antimony minerals, such as stibnite, bournonite, tetrahedrite, etc.; and finally, by some arsenic minerals, arsenopyrite especially. The native gold of most of the lodes contains a relatively high proportion of silver, the well-known gold crystals of Verespatak, for instance, containing 30–35 per cent. When to this is added the silver contained in the silver minerals proper, the amount of this metal present is often many times that of the gold.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Map by v. Papp, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1906, p. 306.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 80.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 526.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 524.

Among the gangue-minerals quartz usually occupies the first place. Calcite is often abundant sometimes even equalling or exceeding the quartz. The frequent occurrence of manganese minerals is characteristic; rhodochrosite and mangano-calcite are often well represented, as for instance at Nagyag and Verespatak; rhodonite is often found at Verespatak; while alabandite occurs here and there at Nagyag.

The lodes, which as a rule are small, in general follow tectonic, and not contraction fissures. The immediate country-rock in the different districts is as follows :

At Nagyag: dacite rich in hornblende.

At Offenbanya: dacite rich in hornblende, merging into hornblende-andesite.

At Hondal, Troicza-Tresztya, Nagy-Almas, and Korabia-Vulkoj: hornblende-andesite.

At Muszari: andesite and melaphyre or melaphyre tuff.

At Verespatak: dacite poor in hornblende, and rhyolite; Carpathian sandstone and a rock known as *Lokalsediment*.

At Boicza: melaphyre with quartz-porphry; and a limestone patch in melaphyre, near hornblende-andesite.

In Transylvania, far back in ancient times, gold was won at several places, partly by washing the rather poor gravels. Some idea of the production in more recent times may be obtained from the following figures :

1770 roughly	300 kg. gold.	1890 roughly	1570 kg. gold.
1787	700	1895	2274
1810	210	1900	2260
1842	1140	1905	2725
1868	700	1908	2311

The increase of late has been chiefly due to rich pockets discovered in the Ruda-12-Apostles' mine, which itself has latterly produced some 1600-1900 kg. yearly. Nagyag produces yearly about 80-100 kg. of gold and 200-250 kg. of silver. Nagyag and Verespatak are in part State mines, the others are in private possession. The limit of payability in Transylvania is considered to be as follows :

Amount of Ore per Unit of Lode Plane.	Yield of Gold.
0.5 ton per sq. m.	15 grm. per ton.
1.0 " "	12 " "
1.5 " "	10 " "
2.0 " "	8 " "

At Nagyag the lodes occur within an eruptive throat or chimney consisting of propylitized dacite, though andesite also appears. Within an area



about 1000 m. long and 950 m. wide an extraordinary number of steeply inclined and approximately north-south lodes are found, these being generally but 10 cm. wide and seldom as much as 30 cm. The occurrence is illustrated in Fig. 295. In addition to gold telluride,<sup>1</sup> native gold, though seldom, is also found. Its derivation from the telluride may be explained in the same way as the silver horns upon argentite at Kongsberg.<sup>2</sup>

The lodes themselves may be divided into three divisions :

1. The quartz-telluride lodes, containing quartz with sylvanite and more seldom with nagyagite ; and pyrite and tetrahedrite.
2. The pink manganese-telluride lodes, with rhodochrosite ; some quartz, alabandite, and nagyagite ; and tetrahedrite, pyrite, bournonite, as primary minerals ; and with arsenic, sulphur, etc., as secondary minerals.

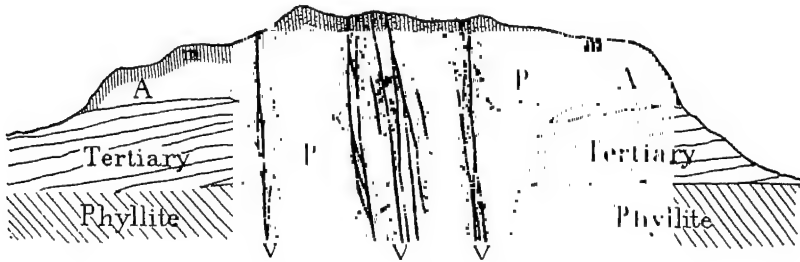


FIG. 295.—Idealized section at Nagyag. B. v. Inkey, 1885.

*A*, dacite ; *P*, propylite ; *K*, kaolinized dacite immediately along the lodes ; *V*, lodes ; *m*, surface weathering.

3. The base-metal lodes, containing galena, sphalerite, and pyrite, with calcite and dolomite.

With many of the lodes a breccia occurs<sup>3</sup> which doubtless, both in regard to its fragments and matrix, is the result of friction and trituration along the fissure walls. The most productive ore-bodies, some being occasionally very rich, are found where many lodes intersect to form a chimney or shoot.<sup>4</sup> In 1883 or 1884, for instance, one such body in three days yielded gold to the value of £2300 from an area of two square metres on the lode plane and a thickness of about 0·20 metre.

Mining at Nagyag began in the year 1747. The element tellurium was discovered at this place. The mines at present are worked from the Franz-Joseph adit which has a length of 5012 metres. According to B. v. Inkey, from the commencement of mining in 1748 to the year 1882, Nagyag produced 39,995·6 kg. of gold-silver bullion worth £2,193,000, equivalent to about 18,000 kg. of gold and 22,000 kg. of silver ; after the payment

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 543.

<sup>3</sup> *Glauch*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 131.

<sup>4</sup> *Erzstock*.

of all costs the net profit in some years amounted to £420,000. By 1902 the total production had increased to 46,335 kg. of such bullion, while in the six years 1903–1908 some 556 kg. of gold and 1387 kg. of silver were produced, bringing the total production of gold to about 22,000 kg. or 22 tons.

The country around Verespatak—so well known historically and for its gold crystals—consists of: dacite and rhyolite, these rocks forming the peaks known as Kirnik and Boj, the latter containing the celebrated Csetatye deposit; Carpathian sandstone; and *Lokalsediment*, a rock regarded by Pošepný as a sediment but which according to Semper is probably an outpouring of volcanic mud. In the dacite, strikingly large dihexahedra of quartz are found. A little distance away andesite also occurs.

The lodes, which contain gold crystals, free gold, auriferous pyrite, quartz, rhodochrosite, etc., occur in the dacite, rhyolite, and sediment, while in the porous Carpathian sandstone most of them quickly disappear. The area in which they occur has a length of about 2.5 km. and a breadth of about 1.5 km. Individually they are generally of little width and but short extent along both strike and dip. Sometimes however they occur in such considerable number and so close together that the whole rock mass has to be mined. In this way no doubt were formed, the large old Roman excavation, the 'Csetatye mare'<sup>1</sup> near the top of the Boj, and the so-called Katroncza chimney, 100 m. deep and 20–40 m. wide. In this district during the two years 1823 and 1824 alone, gold to the value of £80,000 was recovered. The metasomatic features of this occurrence are mentioned later.<sup>2</sup>

Mining at Verespatak began in the time of the Romans, A.D. 106–276. Following an ancient local mining law, extremely small areas of cubical or spherical shape were formerly granted to a large number of small corporations or to individual persons. Such grants on account of their shape have no extension in depth. Every such corporation or person has its own small and primitive battery, so that within a fairly small district there are no less than about 6000 stamps. In these batteries apparently but 40 per cent of the gold content is recovered. In addition, the Hungarian Mining Department is working here, as well as a large French company. Much gold was won formerly though now the output is small.

The Muczari and Ruda mines adjacent to one another and now belonging to one company, have produced of late the greater portion, some two-thirds of the total production of Transylvania. In their neighbourhood a melaphyre tuff of great extent is broken by several eruptions of andesite. In the principal mine the northern portion of this andesite is crossed by a

<sup>1</sup> Large fortress.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 640.

fault striking N.W.-S.E. which carries ore and is known as the Klara lode, one of the principal lodes. A second fault, striking approximately north-south, cuts through the eastern portion of the andesite and forms the Carpin lode. Where these two cross the ore was richest, a shoot there, about 50 m. long and 80 m. deep, having yielded some thousands of kilogrammes of gold. The other lodes likewise are tectonic fissures; the amount of ore they carry generally diminishes as the distance from the centre of the andesite increases.

The occurrence at Boicza is singular in so far that the lodes occur in the Jurassic melaphyre and quartz-porphyry; the distance from the nearest outcrop of Tertiary hornblende-andesite is, however, but 3 kilometres.

## CARTAGENA AND MAZARRON IN SOUTH-EASTERN SPAIN

### LITERATURE

A. OSANN. 'Über die Eruptivgesteine und über den geologischen Bau des Cabo de Gata,' *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.* Vol. XLI., 1889, and Vol. XLIII., 1891.—R. PILZ. 'Die Bleiglanzlagerstätten von Mazarron,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1905; 'Die Erzlagerstätten von Cartagena,' *ibid.*, 1908; Dissertation über Mazarron. Dresden and Freiberg, 1906. In these works the pertinent literature, and especially that in Spanish, is given.

The narrow stretch along the coast from Cabo de Gata to Cabo de Palos near Cartagena was in Tertiary times the scene of great volcanic activity, which included extrusions of liparite, dacite, andesite, and basalt. According to Osann the centres of eruption appear to be arranged in three parallel lines, as illustrated in Fig. 296. In close association with these eruptives, and particularly with the andesite and dacite, ore-deposits are found in the neighbourhood of Mazarron and Cartagena.

At Mazarron the lodes occur within an area about 8 km. long and 3 to 4 km. wide; partly in dacite; partly in mica-schist, amphibolite, dolomite, and quartzite, surrounding the dacite; and partly along the contact between the two. In the upper levels the lodes within the dacite appear to be chiefly contraction fissures. At depths of 400 and 500 m., on the other hand, it is probable that the majority are tectonic fissures, these being frequently of composite character. As illustrated in Fig. 297, the number of lodes diminishes rapidly in depth, while of those which continue, most become impoverished at a depth of 400–500 metres. The most important ore-minerals are galena, sphalerite, pyrite, marcasite, some chalcopryrite, etc. The galena generally carries 1.5 kg. of silver per ton, and exceptionally as much as 3–6 kg. The gangue consists of siderite, calcite, dolomite, some barite, and quartz. Selenite occurs as a secondary mineral. Magnetite and specularite are found in very small amount, while the presence of quicksilver as a mineralogical curiosity has been established.

In the oxidation zone much limonite, cerussite, zinc carbonate, pyromorphite, mimetesite, etc., and some native silver, are found.

The lode district around Cartagena has a length of 10 km. and a width of 5 km. Like the occurrence at Mazarron, the lodes occur partly within the eruptive rock; partly between this and the Triassic dolomite or slate which surrounds it; partly as cross-courses and bedded lodes in the slates; and finally as chimneys, pipes, and bedded deposits in the dolomite. The eruptive rock is chiefly andesite. The most im-

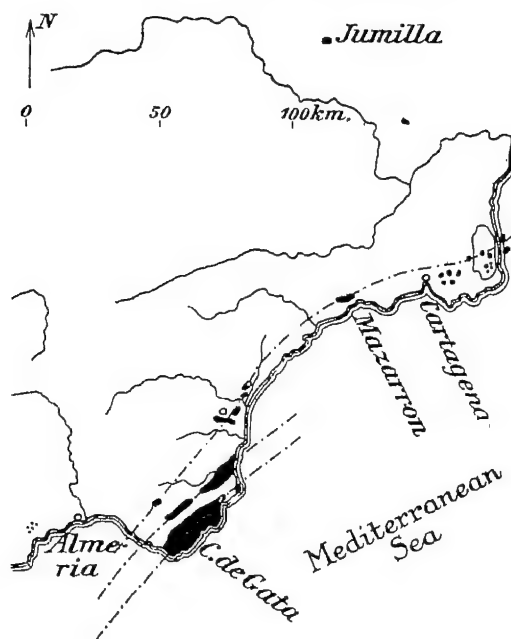


FIG. 296.—Map of the Tertiary eruptive belts (black) between Almeria and Cartagena, Spain. Osann, 1891.

portant primary ore is galena, which contains on an average 1-1.5 kg. of silver per ton. Sphalerite, copper sulphides, much pyrite, and ferromanganese minerals, also occur. The oxidation zone, in addition to those ores mentioned as occurring in that zone at Mazarron, contains a good deal of cerargyrite. At the outcrop of one of the principal mines, the Monto de los Azules, wood-tin was found, a fact which recalls the Potosi type of deposit. This wood-tin was considered to be of secondary formation.

The country-rock of the lodes is highly altered to a propylitized rock carrying much sericite and kaolin. In this connection, both at Mazarron and Cartagena alunite occurs in such amount as to have been formerly worked

for alum, 7.5 tons of the raw material having been required to produce one ton of alum. Pilz expresses the opinion that the formation of the alunite was not the direct consequence of the volcanic activity but rather that of the decomposition of the pyrite in the lodes. It nevertheless appears possible and even probable that, as at Goldfield,<sup>1</sup> the alunite is in greater part, if not exclusively, a direct fumarolic product due, conjointly with the lodes, to the action of heated waters.

Exhalations of carbonic acid are not infrequently encountered in the mines at Mazarron, the issuing gas consisting by volume of 93.5 per cent  $\text{CO}_2$ , 5.6 per cent nitrogen, 0.9 per cent oxygen, and traces of water. The amount given off is sometimes so great as to seriously disturb the work; on February 16, 1893, twenty-eight workmen and officials lost their lives by such an issue of gas. In one place mofettes were still in active operation ten years after their first appearance as water springs containing gas. At times the gas is found under pressure in fissures, and frequently when breaking through from eruptive rock to slate, violent issues of gas have occurred. Pilz in 1905 regarded such gaseous accumulations under pressure as closely associated with the actual eruption of the dacite, though in 1908, on the other hand, he indicated the possibility that they arose by the action of sulphuric-acid waters upon carbonates in the lodes and country-rock.

These deposits were worked by the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians, and the Romans, the works of the latter reaching to a depth of 360 metres. Subsequently, for more than a thousand years they lay untouched, until those at Cartagena were reopened again in 1839, and those at Mazarron in 1870. Latterly operations at both places have been quite brisk; thus, in 1904 the mines at Mazarron produced more than 30,000 tons of lead ore with 58 per cent of lead, and 694 tons of zinc ore with 30-40 per cent of zinc, while 5000 tons of iron ore were also won as a by-product. At Cartagena the production

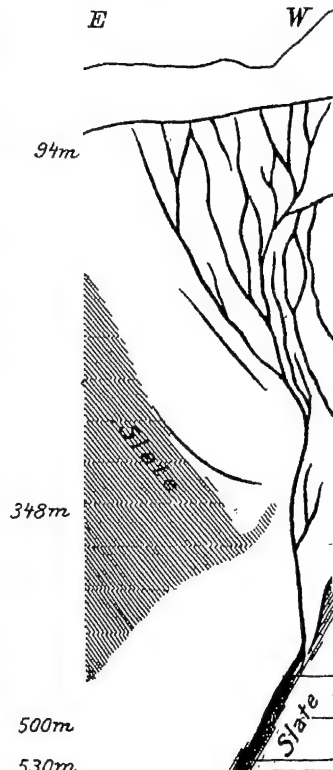


FIG. 297.—Vertical section through the Santa Ana mine at Mazarron, Spain. Pilz, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1905.

The white areas next to the slate represent dacite; on top is a sand- and clay covering.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 522.

in the same year was still larger, namely, 80,000 tons of lead ore and some 85,000 tons of zinc ore.

In the neighbourhood of Cabo de Gata also, the position of which is given in Fig. 296, there are occurrences of andesite, dacite, and liparite, associated with and carrying a large number of deposits. At Pinar in the Sierra de Bedar, especially, such deposits are worked for galena and to a less extent for copper ore. The occurrences of iron ore at Serena and Tres Amigos, from which about 100,000 tons of limonite are produced yearly, are regarded as metasomatic replacements of siderite; they occur chiefly at the contact between limestone and slate. In the Sierra Almagrera, near the coast and approximately midway between Cabo de Gata and Mazarron, auriferous galena mixed with siderite was formerly worked under great difficulty with water, the lodes apparently permitting the entry of sea-water. At Herrerías silver- and iron ores are worked.<sup>1</sup>

## PONTGIBAUD IN FRANCE

### LITERATURE

LODIN. 'Étude sur les gîtes métallifères de Pontgibaud,' Ann. d. Mines, Sér. 9, I. 1892, pp. 389-505; extracted in Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1893, pp. 310-319.—The geological maps of Moulins, Gannat, and Clermont.

The lode district of Pontgibaud, 14 km. long and about 4.5 km. wide in the department Puy-de-Dôme, lies on the west side of the Tertiary eruptive region of Auvergne.<sup>2</sup> In the middle of this district, a Chalusset, a small extinct volcanic cone rises. The lodes occur in gneiss and mica-schist, along fissures following old granitic dykes. Quartz is the principal gangue, though barite also occurs. The principal ore is galena, which occurs with some pyrite and sphalerite; bournonite, tetrahedrite, etc., are more seldom. The silver content of the galena diminishes in depth. It is considered that the fissures, along which, as before mentioned, carbonic acid exhalations were remarked, are of Miocene age. Mining operations, which at the latest began in the year 1554, were from the 'sixties to the 'eighties of last century quite important, while as late as 1890 there were still 489 persons employed; now they are stopped.

## THE UNITED STATES

### LITERATURE

WALDEMAR LINDGREN. 'The Geological Features of the Gold Production of North America,' Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. XXXIII, for 1902; 'A Geological Analysis of the

<sup>1</sup> F. Firkus, 'Über einige Erzlagerstätten der Provinz Almería in Spanien,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1906.

<sup>2</sup> Michel-Lévy, 'Massif du Mont-Dore,' etc., Guide géol. des excursions du VIII. Cong. géol. intern., 1900, XIV.

Silver Production of the United States in 1906,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 340, 1908.—F. v. RICHTHOFEN. Works cited in the description of the Comstock Lode.—EDWARD SUSS. *Zukunft des Goldes*, 1877; *Zukunft des Silbers*, 1892.—S. F. EMMONS and G. F. BECKER. *Geological Sketches of the Precious Metal Deposits of the Western United States*, Washington, 1885.—J. F. KEMP. *Ore Deposits of the United States and Canada*.—J. R. VAN HISE. 'A Treatise on Metamorphism,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. XLVII., 1904.

For the different mining districts reference is recommended to the comprehensive descriptions published by the U.S. Geol. Survey, these in former years being particularly by G. F. Becker, S. F. Emmons, A. Hague, Whitman Cross, and of late years particularly by J. S. Diller, J. D. Irving, W. Lindgren, R. L. Ransome, and J. E. Spurr. In these monographs detailed and exhaustive bibliographies are collected; Lindgren and Ransome, for instance, give in their work upon Cripple Creek, published in 1906, a list of thirty-eight previous papers on that district; and Ransome in 1909 a list of seventeen works upon Goldfield. In the U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 340, 1908, there is on pp. 153-156 a list of the Survey publications upon gold and silver. Only the most important can be mentioned here.

*Comstock in Nevada*.—Principal Work: G. F. BECKER. 'Geology of the Comstock Lode and the Washoe District, with Atlas,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. III., 1892. In addition, F. v. RICHTHOFEN. *The Comstock Lode: Its Character and probable Mode of Continuance in Depth*, San Francisco, 1866; 'The Natural System of the Volcanic Rocks,' Cal. Acad. Sc., 1867; *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1868, p. 663.—CLARENCE KING. *Geology in Exploration of the 40th Parallel*, U.S. III., 1870, pp. 1-96.—F. ZIRKEL. *Microscopical Petrology in Exploration of the 40th Parallel*, IV., 1876.—J. A. CHURCH. *The Comstock Lode*. New York, 1879.—E. LORD. 'History of Comstock,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. IV., 1883.—A. HAGUE and J. P. IDDIGS. 'On the Development of Crystallisation in the Igneous Rocks of Washoe,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 17, 1885.—Answered by BECKER. 'The Washoe Rocks,' Cal. Acad. Sc. II. Bull. 6, 1886; *Amer. Journ. Sc.* XXXIII., 1887.

*Elsewhere in Nevada. Goldfield*.—Principal Work: F. L. RANSOME. 'The Geology and Ore Deposits of Goldfield,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Professional Paper 66, 1909; extract by Ransome in *Econ. Geol.* V., 1910.—J. E. SPURR. 'Geology of the Tonopah Mining District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, P.P. 42, 1905; 'Ore Deposits of the Silver Peak Quadrangle,' U.S. Geol. Survey, P.P. 55, 1906.—J. S. CURTIS. 'Silver-lead Deposits of Eureka,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. VII., 1884.—A. HAGUE. 'Geology of the Eureka District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. XX., 1892.

*Cripple Creek in Colorado*.—Principal Work: W. LINDGREN and F. L. RANSOME. 'Geology and Gold Deposits of the Cripple Creek District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, P.P. 54, 1906.—W. CROSS and R. A. F. PENROSE. 'The Geology and Mining Industries of the Cripple Creek District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 16th Ann. Rep. II., 1895.

*Elsewhere in Colorado*.—W. CROSS and S. F. EMMONS. 'Geology of Silver Cliff and the Rosita Hills,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 17th Ann. Rep. II., 1896.—J. E. SPURR, G. H. GARREY, and S. H. BALL. 'Economic Geology of the Georgetown Quadrangle,' U.S. Geol. Survey, P.P. 63, 1908.—N. M. FENNEMAN. 'Geology of the Boulder District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 265, 1905.—F. RICKARD. 'Gilpin County,' *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* XXVIII., 1899.—S. F. EMMONS. 'The Mines of Custer Co.,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 17th Ann. Rep. II., 1896.—W. CROSS. 'Geology of the Rico Mountains,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 21st Ann. Rep. II., 1900.—F. L. RANSOME. 'The Ore Deposits of the Rico Mountains,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 22nd Ann. Rep., 1902; 'Report on the Economic Geology of the Silverton Quadrangle,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 182, 1901.—J. D. IRVING. 'Ore Deposits of the Ouray District,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 260, 1905.—J. A. PORTER. 'The Smuggler Union Mines, Telluride,' *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.*, 1896.—C. W. PURINGTON. 'On the Mining Industries of the Telluride Quadrangle,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 18th Ann. Rep. III., 1898.—S. H. BALL. 'Southern Nevada,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 308, 1907.—S. F. EMMONS. 'Eureka,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. XII., 1886.—S. F. EMMONS and J. D. IRVING. 'Eureka,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 320, 1907.—J. E. SPURR. 'Aspen,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon. XXXI., 1898; *Econ. Geol.* IV., 1909.

*Elsewhere in other States*.—W. LINDGREN. 'The Gold and Silver Veins of Silver City, De Lamar, and Other Mining Districts in Idaho,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 20th Ann. Rep. III., 1900.—J. M. BOUTWELL, A. KEITH, and S. F. EMMONS. 'Economic Geology of the Bingham Mining District, Utah,' P.P. 38, 1905; Bull. 213, 225, 260.—S. F. EMMONS and J. E. SPURR. *Economic Geology of the Mercur Mining District, Utah*, U.S. Geol. Survey, 16th

Ann. Rep. II., 1895.—S. F. EMMONS. 'The De Lamar and the Hornsilver Mines; two types of Ore-Deposits in the Deserts of Nevada and Utah,' Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., 1901. — G. W. TOWER and G. O. SMITH. 'Geology and Mining Industry of the Tintic District, Utah,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 19th Ann. Rep. III., 1899.—W. H. WEED and L. V. PRUSSON. 'Geology and Mineral Resources of the Judith Mountains of Montana,' U.S. Geol. Survey, 18th Ann. Rep. III., 1898.—In addition, 'Annual Contributions to Economic Geology,' U.S. Geol. Survey.

It is fitting to begin this description with the following figures of the production of the United States.<sup>1</sup>

	Gold.	Silver.
	Tons.	Tons.
1800-1848 yearly average about .	1.5	0.0
1851-1855 " "	88.8	9.3
1856-1860 " "	77.1	6.2
1861-1865 " "	96.7	174.0
1866-1870 " "	76.0	301.0
1871-1875 " "	59.5	564.8
1880 . . . . .	54.2	943.0
1885 . . . . .	47.8	1124.6
1890 . . . . .	49.4	1695.5
1895 . . . . .	70.5	1441.1
1900 . . . . .	117.6	1793.4
1905 . . . . .	132.7	1745.3
1910 . . . . .	144.5	1755.4

The discovery of alluvial gold in California in the year 1848 was, as is well known, followed by an intense working of these gravels, the zenith of production having been reached in 1853. With the exhaustion of these deposits the gold production of the entire country sank to a minimum in the years 1882-1890. Then work upon the many gold lodes began. Now, within the last twenty years, the production has again increased, not to any great extent by reason of the discovery of gravels in Alaska, but owing chiefly to the fruition of such mining districts as Cripple Creek, Goldfield, etc., most of which belong to the Tertiary group. Outside of Alaska there is now but little gold won from gravels. Thus, in 1901 gold to the value of 66 million dollars was won from lodes, and to the value of 12.2 millions from gravels; of these amounts no less than 8.2 millions came from Alaska, practically all of this being from gravels.

In the United States the first silver mine of any importance began work in the year 1859, on the Comstock Lode. Since the fall in price in 1892-1894 the production of silver has remained fairly constant.

W. Lindgren<sup>2</sup> divides the gold deposits in the United States, Mexico, and Canada, into the following groups:

<sup>1</sup> B. Neumann, *Die Metalle*, Halle, 1904; *The Mineral Industry*; *Die statistischen Tabellen der Frankfurter Metallgesellschaft*.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*, Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. XXXIII., 1903.



1. *Contact - Deposits.*—These have little importance in the United States but attain somewhat greater significance in Mexico.<sup>1</sup>

2. *Pre - Cambrian Lodes.*—These in the United States are found particularly in the Appalachian Mountains of Georgia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, Virginia, and in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

3. *Cretaceous Lodes.*—These occur on the Pacific Coast within a long belt extending from Mexico through the central portion of California, where they are largely developed, on to Northern California, Oregon, and Idaho, and finally to British Columbia and Alaska. These lodes are quartz lodes containing free gold and auriferous sulphides. They occur in connection with granite and diorite, and, on account of the great denudation they have suffered as well as the coarse character of the gold, they are accompanied by important auriferous gravels. This older gold-quartz belt extends along the east side of the Sacramento Valley and the Sierra Nevada, the quicksilver zone of the Coast Ranges keeping nearer the Pacific sea-board.

4. *Late Cretaceous Lodes, in part Early Tertiary.*—Such occur in the central belt of the Central and Eastern Cordilleras, particularly at different places in Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, etc.

5. *Tertiary Lodes, chiefly Post-Miocene.*—These occur in association with Tertiary eruptive rocks, particularly andesite and dacite; more seldom rhyolite and basalt; and exceptionally phonolite; all of which in this connection are characterized by propylitization.

Occasionally these lodes carry either silver or gold exclusively, but generally both metals occur in approximately equal-value amounts. Many of these deposits are characterized by extraordinarily rich but limited bonanzas, while in many cases a decrease in value in depth has been established. The gold in these lodes is mostly finely distributed throughout the quartz, on account of which, and also because of the comparatively limited amount of denudation which from their lower age they have experienced, these Tertiary occurrences are accompanied by auriferous gravels to a less extent than are the older Californian lodes.

The following statistical-geological statement of the gold production of Mexico, the United States, and Canada, is based upon figures from Lindgren's work, to which data for the year 1908 have been added. The figures given are in million dollars, roughly equivalent to 1.5 tons of gold. The distribution among the different lode-groups can naturally not be exact. The gold won from gravels has been reckoned with those lodes from which such gravels have presumably arisen.

<sup>1</sup> W. H. Weed, 'Elkhorn Mining District, Montana,' *U.S. Geol. Survey*, 22nd Ann. Rep. W. Lindgren, 'The Character and Genesis of Certain Contact-Deposits,' *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.*, February 1901; W. H. Weed, 'Ore-Deposits near Igneous Contacts,' *ibid.* October 1902.

## GOLD PRODUCTION OF NORTH AMERICA IN MILLION DOLLARS

	Geological Distribution.					1900.		Total 1908.
	Total from Discovery to 1900.	Pre-Cambrian.	Mesozoic (Pacific Coast).	Late Cretaceous (Central).	Tertiary.	Total.	Tertiary included.	
UNITED STATES	Alaska . . . . .	30.7	29.7	...	1.0	8.2	0.4	19.9
	Washington . . . . .	21.4 ?	10.0	...	11.4	0.7	0.5	0.3
	Oregon . . . . .	54.5	54.0	...	0.5 ?	1.7	...	0.9
	California . . . . .	1380.0 ?	1350.0	...	30.0	15.8	1.0	19.3
	Idaho . . . . .	1112.8	90.0	...	22.8	1.7	1.0	1.4
	Montana . . . . .	203.5 ?	...	200.0	3.5 ?	4.7	...	3.2
	South Dakota . . . . .	90.0	...	...	16.0	6.2	2.4	7.7
	Wyoming . . . . .	1.0 ?	...	...	...	1.0	...	...
	Colorado . . . . .	251.1 ?	...	34.0	217.1	28.8	26.1	22.9
	Utah . . . . .	27.0	...	25.0	2.0 ?	4.0	?	3.9
	Nevada . . . . .	250.0 ?	...	20.0	230.0	2.0	2.0	11.7
	Arizona . . . . .	42.1	22.1	...	20.0	4.2	2.2	2.5
	New Mexico . . . . .	17.6	...	7.6 ?	10.0 ?	0.8	0.4	0.3
	Appalachian States . . . . .	47.0	...	...	...	0.3	...	0.3
Total for United States . . . . .		2528.7	1555.8	286.6	564.3	79.2	36.0	94.2
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA	Nova Scotia . . . . .	13.7	...	...	...	0.6	...	...
	Quebec . . . . .	2.0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ontario . . . . .	1.2 ?	...	...	...	0.3	...	...
	British Columbia . . . . .	70.7	70.7	...	...	4.7	...	...
	N.W. Territory . . . . .	52.6	52.6	...	...	22.3	...	...
Total . . . . .		140.2	123.3	...	...	27.9	...	...
Mexico . . . . .		200.0 ?	40.0 ?	...	160.0 ?	9.0	7.0 ?	...
Total for North America . . . . .		2868.9	1719.1	286.6	724.3	116.1	43.0	...

The Tertiary gold lodes and the closely allied silver lodes occur over a very large metal province, which, associated with many and large Tertiary extrusions, stretches from Mexico in the south, to the Great Basin lying between the Sierra Nevada on the west and the Rocky Mountains on the east. Along this extent the lodes occur in greatest number in Colorado, Utah and Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico; farther to the north in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana, they are not so numerous.

Lindgren<sup>1</sup> made also a similar statistical-geological statement for the silver lodes of the United States, which he divided into the following groups:

1. *Old Silver Lodes*.—These occur in Montana, Idaho, and elsewhere. They are found in granite or are associated with porphyry. Quartz is the usual gangue. The lodes are often rich near the surface, where secondary sulphides and sulph-antimonites have been formed. In the primary zone below water-level impoverishment often sets in. Occasionally the lodes carry comparatively much galena.

2. *Lodes in Tertiary Eruptives, Rhyolite, Dacite, Andesite, etc.*—These consist preponderatingly of quartz, occasionally with some chalcodony, and in many cases with adularia. The primary ore is chiefly argentite, this being accompanied by relatively small amounts of lead-, zinc-, and copper sulphides. In dry climates the ore in the upper levels has in places been greatly enriched by oxidation and the consequent formation of sulph-antimonites. Typical examples of such enrichment are found in the Comstock Lode, at Tonopah in Nevada, Mogollon in New Mexico, and Silver City in Idaho. The lodes belonging to this group, in addition to silver, usually contain a valuable amount of gold.

3. *Deposits in Limestone*.—These in general are associated with intrusions of granite, diorite, monzonite, or porphyry. Most are rich in lead, some also in copper and zinc. Quartz and calcite are the important gangue-minerals. Secondary silver sulphides and sulph-antimonites are more seldom seen in the alteration zones of these deposits, though, on the other hand, much native silver and cerargyrite have sometimes been found, as for instance at Leadville in Colorado, and Lake Valley in New Mexico. Several of these occurrences belong to the metasomatic and contact-metamorphic deposits, as such deposits are defined in this work.

These three groups are probably the products of the same mineralizing processes, their differences being due to different depths below the surface at the time of original deposition, to varying physical conditions, and to the influence of the country-rock, whether for instance that were limestone, andesite, or granite, etc. The second group probably belongs to the late Tertiary, the third to the earliest Tertiary.

<sup>1</sup> Lindgren, *U.S. Geol. Survey*, Bull. 340, 1908.

A good deal of silver is also won as a by-product when treating copper ores, this being particularly the case at Butte, Montana.

From a total of 57·4 million ounces of silver produced in 1906, 40·4 millions came from lead-, copper-, and zinc ores, and only 16·8 millions from silver-quartz lodes proper. Of this last figure, lodes within Tertiary eruptives yielded 10·3 million ounces, of which 7·5 millions came from ores containing both gold and silver. Many of the occurrences found in the neighbourhood of, but not actually within such Tertiary eruptives, must also be counted as belonging to that group.

THE SILVER PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES

	Units of 1000 oz. = 31·1 kg.		
	1890.	1900.	1908.
Washington . . . .	28	225	87
Oregon . . . . .	18	115	56
California . . . . .	1,063	941	1,704
Idaho . . . . .	3,138	6,429	7,558
Montana . . . . .	13,511	14,195	10,356
South Dakota . . . .	105	530	197
Colorado . . . . .	18,376	20,484	10,150
Utah . . . . .	7,005	9,208	8,451
Nevada . . . . .	4,697	1,359	9,509
Arizona . . . . .	1,813	2,996	2,000
New Mexico . . . . .	1,251	434	401
Michigan . . . . .	15	102	294
Missouri . . . . .	...	...	49
Tennessee . . . . .	...	...	61
Texas . . . . .	323	477	447
Alaska . . . . .	9	73	205
Total . . . . .	51,355	57,047	52,441

From 1859 to about 1880 the State of Nevada, including the Comstock Lode, ranked first among the silver-producing states. In Colorado and Nevada the Tertiary gold-silver deposits especially are widely distributed, while in Utah this is the case with the closely allied Tertiary silver lodes.

In *Colorado*, at present the most important producer of gold and silver in the United States, if Leadville and some other supposedly metasomatic occurrences be excluded only Tertiary deposits connected with eruptives occur. The disposition of the different mining districts is shown in Fig. 298. That of Cripple Creek in Tellur County, where the deposits are remarkable for the considerable amounts of gold telluride they contain, has of late yielded more than one-half of the total gold production of Colorado. North of Cripple Creek occur the deposits of Clear Creek, Gilpin and Boulder counties. These are chiefly connected with andesite

dykes. They carry both gold and silver, though latterly the gold recovered has exceeded the silver in value. In Gilpin County the lodes contain sulphide ore and free gold; Boulder County yields chiefly telluride gold ore; Clear Creek County produces smelting ore with much silver. In the last-named county the production during the period 1859–1904, according to Spurr and Garrey, was gold to the value of 16.1 million dollars, silver to 63.6 million, lead to 3.8 million, copper to 0.5 million, and zinc to 0.04 million dollars.

Sixty-five kilometres south of Cripple Creek, in Custer County, the

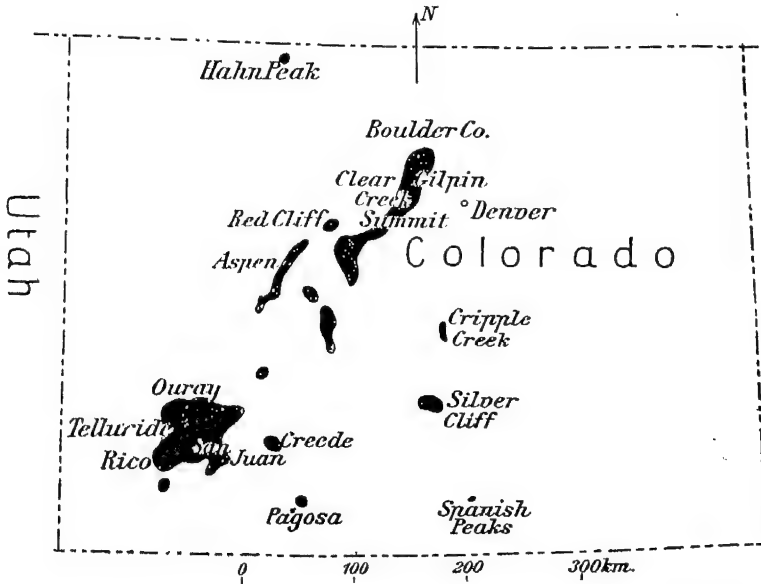


FIG. 298.—Map of the more important gold-, silver-, and lead districts in Colorado. Spurr and Garrey, *U.S. Geol. Survey*, P.P. No. 63, 1908.

Silver Cliff, and Rosita Hills mines, described by Whitmann Cross and S. F. Emmons,<sup>1</sup> occur. These together from 1880 to 1894 produced gold to the value of \$1,822,327, and silver to \$4,055,625.

In south-western Colorado, in the San Juan, San Michel, and Ouray counties, the Juan goldfield occurs. There some of the lodes carry silver only, others gold and silver, while others again carry gold only. In isolated cases telluride-gold and silver ores are found in considerable amount; hence the name Telluride for one of the districts. Most of these occurrences lie in thick andesite- or rhyolite flows. According to Ransome,<sup>2</sup> the mines of the Rico Mountains during the period 1879–1900 yielded about

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1896.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1902.

73,000 oz. of gold and 9 million oz. of silver, or approximately 1 part of gold to 125 of silver.

In *Utah*, the Tintic and Horn Silver districts, among others, belong to the Tertiary group. Both carry silver principally and gold subordinately. At the Horn Silver mine the lodes occur at the contact of rhyolite with limestone; they carry a lead-silver ore with a little gold. The Cornonabe mine, which also carries lead-silver ore, occurs in andesite.

Of the occurrences in *Nevada*, the Comstock Lode, the district of Goldfield containing gold chiefly, and that of Tonopah, chiefly silver, are described more closely below. In addition, the Eureka district presumably associated with rhyolite, the Tuscarora district in young eruptives, and the De Lamar district, are deserving of mention. Eureka yields gold to the extent of one-third the value of its total production, silver and lead to two-thirds. The two other districts yield both silver and gold.

The occurrences in the other states are illustrated by the following brief mention of representative deposits. *Arizona*.—At the Commonwealth mine in Cochise County, where the lodes occur in rhyolite and are very productive, gold forms one-third and silver two-thirds of the value of the production. *California*.—Many important mines working silver lodes in rhyolite occur in Bernardino County, such lodes presumably being connected with the Tertiary gold lodes. In addition, many young Tertiary lodes are found in the eastern foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada; the Bodie mine in andesite worked one such lode containing much gold and silver. *Idaho*.—The Owyhee gold-silver lodes in basalt and rhyolite near the Nevada boundary are worthy of mention. From these, according to Lindgren, during the period 1880–1893 some 313,448 oz. of gold and 10,540,870 oz. of silver were produced. Farther to the north is the Custer mine. The Rocky Bar, Atlanta, and the recently discovered Thunder Mountain lodes, which apparently occur in rhyolite, probably also belong to this group. *Oregon, Washington, Alaska*.—Some Tertiary precious-metal lodes occur in these states, among them being those in andesite at the Apollo mine. *Montana*.—A considerable portion of the silver production of Montana comes from the copper district of Butte, where during the period 1892–1900 copper to the value of 331 million dollars, silver to 86 million, and gold to 14.5 million dollars, were produced.

#### THE COMSTOCK LODE

The outcrop of this lode in the Washoe district of Nevada, near the Californian boundary, is situated about 1970 m. above sea-level on the east slope of the Virginia Mountains, one of the north-eastern spurs of the Sierra Nevada, in latitude N. 39° 20'; the distance from Steamboat

Springs, where the interesting recent deposits of quicksilver occur, is but 9-10 km.<sup>1</sup> The lode itself occurs within a large Tertiary eruptive mass consisting in greater part of andesite. Investigation of the more detailed geological position of this occurrence was considerably facilitated by the rock exposures in the Sutro Tunnel, made during the period

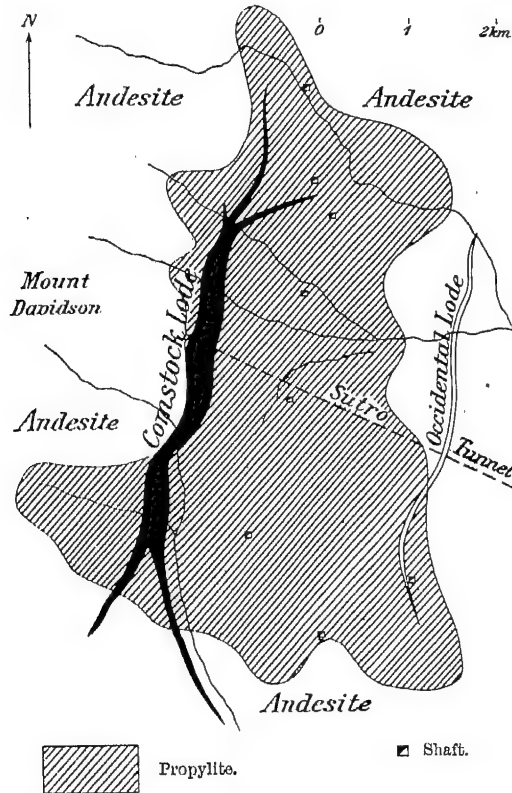


FIG. 299.—Plan of the Comstock Lode (black), showing the extension of the extreme propylitization. Becker.

1868-1878, which reached the deposit at a depth of 500 m. after having been driven 6.4 kilometres.

Becker,<sup>2</sup> in addition to granite occurring some little distance away, differentiated the following eruptive sequence beginning at the oldest: granular diorite, porphyritic diorite, quartz-porphry, older diabase, younger diabase—the so-called black dyke—older hornblende-andesite, augite-andesite, younger hornblende-andesite, and finally basalt, the youngest rock in the sequence. According to later investigation by

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 461, 467.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1882.

Hague and Iddings,<sup>1</sup> many of these chemically so closely related rocks merge gradually into one another, the textural differences depending upon the less or greater depth at which they became consolidated. Rocks which consolidated near the surface are more glassy, while those which consolidated in depth where cooling took longer are holocrystalline and granular. The augite-andesite is therefore but a facies of the granular diorite and of the older diabase; the hornblende-andesite stands in similar relation to the porphyritic diorite; the quartz-porphry is partly a dacite, partly a rhyolite; while the younger diabase dyke must be considered a basalt dyke. According to these authorities also, augite-andesite is the

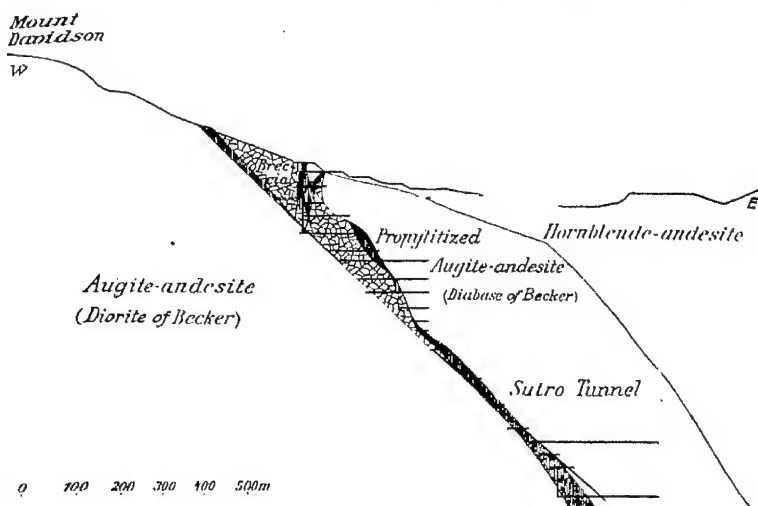


FIG. 300.—Transverse section across the Comstock Lode. Becker.

The hatching represents the lode mass, the black the worked portion, the remainder being lode breccia.

oldest rock, then hornblende-andesite, and finally mica-hornblende-andesite, dacite, rhyolite, and basalt, the last named having but little extent.

This powerful lode, according to Becker, occupies a large fissure along which a correspondingly large movement has taken place. Following the nomenclature of this authority diabase forms the foot-wall and diorite the hanging-wall. According to Hague and Iddings however, one and the same andesite occurs on both walls. All authorities nevertheless are now probably agreed that the whole sequence of eruptives at Comstock are of Tertiary age, and that the textural differences are referable to different conditions of consolidation.

The principal lode, about 4.5 km. long, strikes N. 15° E. and dips about 45° E. To the north as well as to the south, as illustrated in Fig. 299,

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1885.



it splits into branches. Including these the total length is almost 7 km. The deposit itself is a wide quartz-breccia lode containing a series of separate and enormously rich bonanzas. The lode material, consisting of quartz with highly propylitized and often quite clayey fragments of the country-rock, is generally more than 100 feet in width, though in places, as illustrated in Fig. 300, it may be more than 100 metres. In depth also it splits into branches. In addition to quartz; calcite, selenite, and the zeolites chabasite and stilbite, occur, but only to a small extent.

In spite of its large width there is at most places along its extent so little ore that the lode generally is not payable; the rich ore is concentrated in a series of bonanzas of relatively huge dimension. These bonanzas, which altogether occupy but one six-hundredth part of the lode plane, lie irregularly along that plane, and, as seen from Fig. 301, hold somewhat better in depth than along the strike. Their width is occasionally as much as 15 m. or more. Some of them come right to the surface, though most were first met underground.

The most important silver minerals of these bonanzas are argentite, stephanite, and argentiferous galena; less important are pyrrargyrite, proustite, polybasite, native silver, and, near the surface, cerargyrite. Gold occurs chiefly as free gold finely distributed. In addition, sphalerite, pyrite, and chalcopryite occur. The composition of the ore may be gathered from the following analyses:

	California Mine.	Ophir Mine.		Savage Mine.	Kentuck Mine.
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . .	67.50	63.40	SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . .	83.90	91.50
S . . . . .	8.75	7.92	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	1.95	0.83
Au . . . . .	0.079	0.059	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	1.25	1.13
Ag . . . . .	1.75	2.79	Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	0.64	...
Fe . . . . .	2.25	5.46	MgO . . . . .	2.82	1.37
Cu . . . . .	1.30	1.60	CaO . . . . .	0.85	1.42
Zn . . . . .	12.85	14.46	Ag <sub>2</sub> S . . . . .	1.08	0.12
Pb . . . . .	5.75	4.15	Au . . . . .	0.02	0.0017
Sb . . . . .		0.09	ZnS . . . . .	1.75	0.13
			CuS . . . . .	0.30	0.41
			PbS . . . . .	0.36	0.02
			FeS <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	1.80	0.92
			Alkali . . . . .	1.28	1.05
			H <sub>2</sub> O . . . . .	2.33	0.59

The Occidental lode, the position of which 2.3 km. east of the principal lode is indicated in Fig. 299, is without economic significance.

The far-reaching propylitization of the country-rock, which as indicated in Fig. 300 extends chiefly in the hanging-wall of the lode, has already been mentioned.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 518.

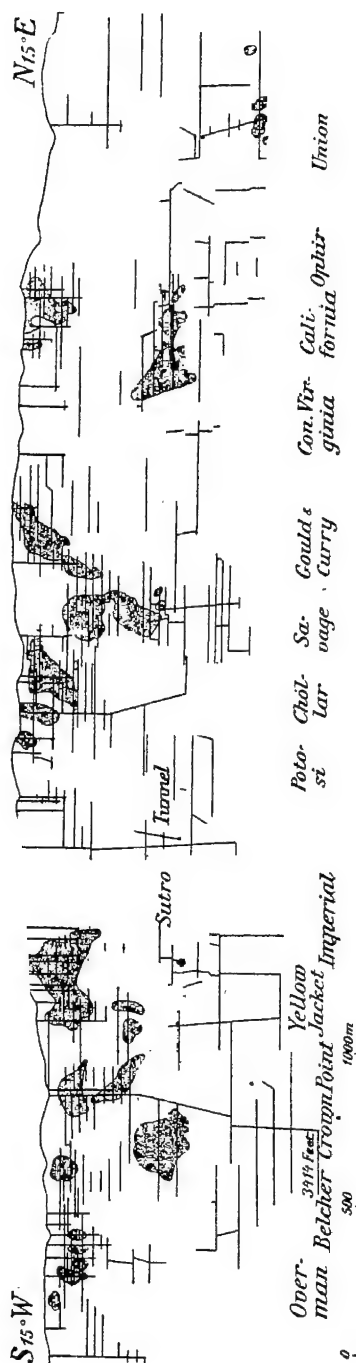


FIG. 301.—Longitudinal section of the central portion of the Comstock Lode,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  km. long; the bonanzas are stippled. Becker, 1892.

The Comstock Lode, apart from the enormous richness of its bonanzas, is also widely known because of the rapid rise of temperature and the inrush of hot water in depth. The temperature of the solid rock rises on an average about  $1^{\circ}$  F. for every 33 feet, that is  $1^{\circ}$  C. for every 19.5 m., this being considerably more rapid than would be expected from the ordinary disposition of geotherms in depth. This hot water which first became noticeable at 600–800 m. was at 900 m. during the winter of 1880–1881 so powerful as to necessitate pumping at the rate of 7 million cubic metres of water yearly. The water had a temperature of  $75^{\circ}$  C. and in spite of good ventilation the water-saturated air left the mine at a temperature of  $35^{\circ}$  C.

As pointed out by Becker, this high temperature does not arise from the kaolinization or oxidation of sulphides in the country-rock, but is a direct result of eruptive activity. The large quantity of these hot waters is all the more striking in that the district is a dry one, very little rain falling. The high temperature on the 900 m. level rendered further sinking impossible, and since at the same time the higher-lying bonanzas were becoming gradually exhausted, mining operations dwindled, till in 1892 they were finally suspended. Since then, except for a little sporadic work, the mines have either lain idle, or the dumps and residues from earlier times have been re-worked.

The Comstock Lode from the

commencement of operations, in 1859, to 1891 yielded 4820 tons of silver and 214 tons of gold,<sup>1</sup> having together a value of 351.2 million dollars or about £73,000,000. If the further results up to 1902 be added these figures become respectively 369.5 million dollars or £77,000,000. It is worthy of remark that this production was from a lode about 4.5 km. in length worked down to a depth of 900 m., and that consequently the Comstock Lode represents the richest concentration of precious metals yet encountered. The zenith of production was reached in the year 1877 when gold to the value of 14.5 million dollars and silver to the value of 21.8 millions were obtained, figures which represented almost one-third of the gold production of the United States at that time, and almost one-half of the silver. Up to December 31, 1880, from a gross revenue of 306 million dollars or £63,750,000, dividends amounting to 118 million dollars or £24,500,000 were distributed.

The weight relation of gold to silver in the total production was as 1 : 22.5, a relation from which, as might be expected, variations occurred, both in the different bonanzas as well as in the mass of each individual bonanza. The following table of the value relations appertaining to the different groups of mines up to the year 1882, formulated by Becker, is of interest in this connection.

	Percentages of Value.	
	Gold.	Silver.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Gold Hill Group . . . . .	47	53
Central Group . . . . .	36	64
Bonanza Group . . . . .	47	53
All together, to end of 1865 . . . . .	32	68
" " " 1882 . . . . .	42.5	57.5

The discoverer, or one of the discoverers of this world-famous lode, a Canadian, Henry Comstock by name, after making much money in the beginning, died in 1870, a beggar.

#### CRIPPLE CREEK, COLORADO

*Gold telluride in quartz-fluorite-dolomite lodes and in the neighbourhood of a phonolitic intrusion*

In the Cripple Creek district, about 2900 m. above sea-level, a Tertiary phonolite intrusion occurs in pre-Cambrian granite and slate. According to Lindgren and Ransome the eruptive sequence was probably as

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 202.

follows : first latite-phonolite and syenite ; then phonolite again, constituting the principal eruption, and trachyte-dolerite ; and later, basic dykes

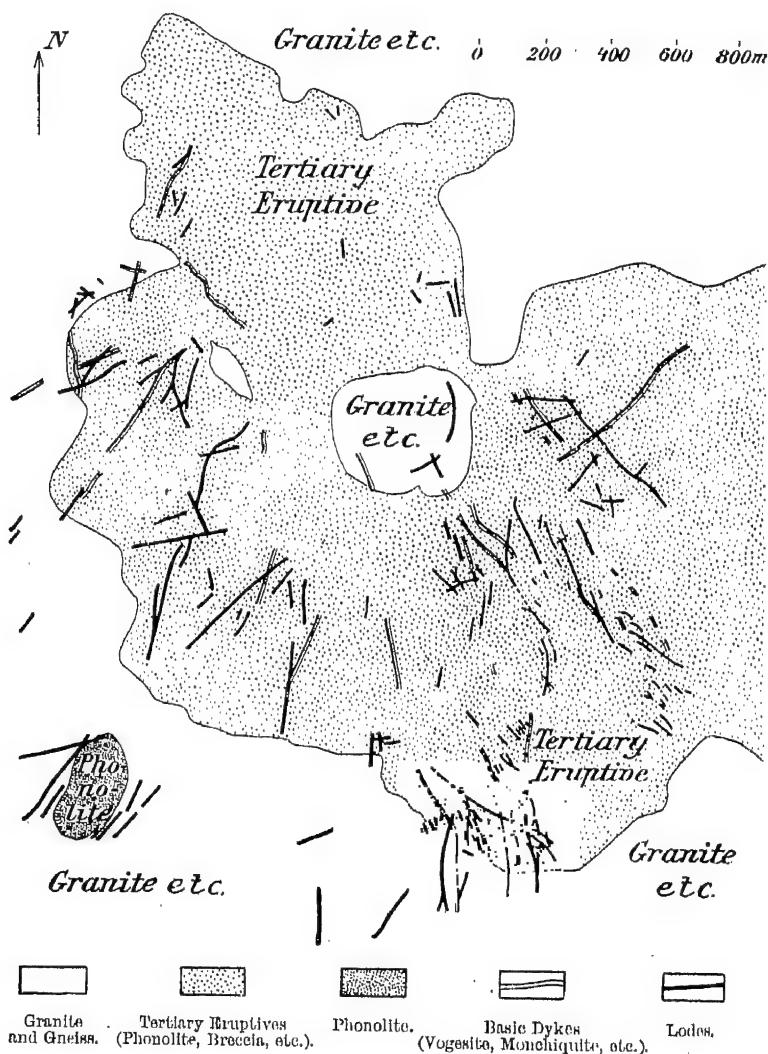


FIG. 302.—Map of the more important portion of the eruptive trunk at Cripple Creek, with the accompanying lodes and basic dykes. Lindgren and Ransome, 1906.

of vogesite, monchiquite, and trachy-dolerite, all of which belong to the same petrographical province. In addition, breccias are common, while finally, in the neighbourhood of Cripple Creek, dykes of rhyolite occur,

though these have little extent. There are no eruptive flows or sheets at Cripple Creek. The eruptive area has a length of about 5 miles and a width of 3 miles, embracing therefore 12.7 square miles or approximately 33 sq. km. Leaving the breccias out of consideration, phonolite occupies 73.5 per cent of this extent, latite-phonolite 23.9 per cent, and the other rocks but 2.6 per cent. This phonolite is a nepheline-phonolite with some sodalite and nosean.

The lodes are found concentrated within the eruptive chimney, principally in breccia and phonolite, but to a less extent also in the surround-

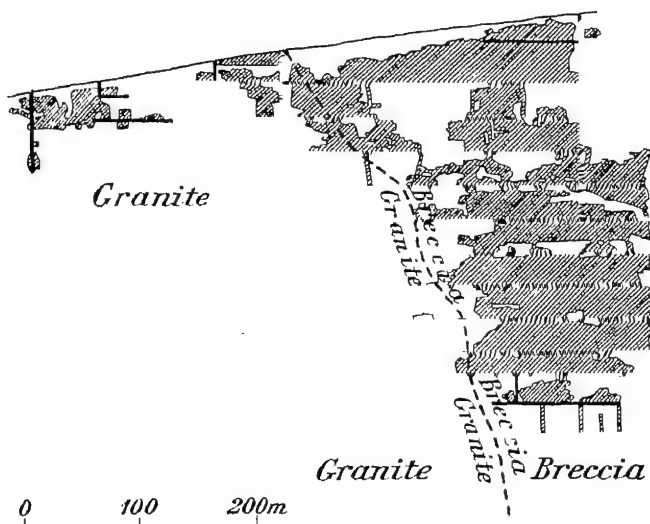


FIG. 303.—Longitudinal section of the ore-shoot in the Independent mine at Cripple Creek. Lindgren and Ransome, 1906.

ing older rocks, granite, etc. The most important lodes, yielding together about £2,500,000 yearly, are found within a circle having a radius of but 2.5 km. Broadly speaking, the steep lodes show a radial grouping around a centre situated in the northern portion of the occurrence; often they follow the well-defined walls of the younger basic dykes. Although in general the individual lodes are not wide, as indicated in Fig. 302 they are often found in connected series.

The gold occurs in the form of tellurides, calaverite chiefly, sylvanite subordinately, and other tellurides of gold, silver, and lead, to a still smaller extent. Native gold occurs secondary but not primary; pyrite is common. In addition, tetrahedrite, stibnite, and small amounts of galena, sphalerite, molybdenite, etc., occur. The weight relation of gold to silver is approxi-

mately as 1 : 10. In the rich oxidation zone, which generally extends to a depth of about 70 m., the gold tellurides are in greater part decomposed and the gold is free. Emmonsite<sup>1</sup> and tellurite<sup>2</sup> are also found secondary in this zone.

Of the gangue, quartz with some chalcedony and opal, forms about 60 per cent, while fluorite and dolomite equally divide the remainder. Roscoelite,<sup>3</sup> rhodochrosite, celestine, etc., are also found, though in very small amount. Adularia is not uncommon. On account of the small width of the lode fissures, gangue-minerals are not present in great amount. A considerable portion of the ore consists of the propylitized and metasomatically altered country-rock.<sup>4</sup> Mineralization probably took place directly after the intrusion of the youngest basic dykes.

Mining at Cripple Creek began in 1891. Since 1898, gold to the value of about 15 million dollars or £3,100,000 has been won yearly. The total production to the end of 1905 amounted to 232,750 kg. of gold, equivalent to 154.6 million dollars or £32,200,000; to the end of 1910 it probably amounted to about 330 tons of gold, equivalent to 220 million dollars or £46,000,000. Cripple Creek in not quite twenty years will accordingly have produced from telluride ores about fifteen times as much as Nagyag in 160 years.

A few years ago there were more than twenty shafts deeper than 300 m. at work at Cripple Creek. The ore on an average carries about 50 gm. of gold per ton. Rich shoots occur not only in the Tertiary eruptives and breccias but also in the adjacent granite. No influence of the country-rock upon the gold content of the lodes has been established. The amount of gold appears to diminish below the 300 m. level. The El Paso tunnel, which cuts the lodes in depth, was completed in 1903.

#### GOLDFIELD, NEVADA

*Gold-quartz lodes with unimportant bismuth, etc.; lodes characterized by alunitization of the country-rock*

The rich district of Goldfield, first discovered in 1902, is situated in Western Nevada, about 1600 m. above sea-level, near a desert land, and in the neighbourhood of several other Tertiary eruptive districts, that of Montezuma lying 11 km. to the south, and Tonopah 45 km. to the north. The geological structure of the district is illustrated in Fig. 304, which is taken from Ransome's work.

The oldest known beds consist of what is considered to be altered

<sup>1</sup>  $\text{TeO}_2$  with some  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ .

<sup>2</sup> Vanadium-mica.

<sup>3</sup>  $\text{TeO}_2$ .

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 521.

ambrian and granite, which are intruded and covered by eruptive rocks of Eocene to Pliocene age. These eruptives occur as flows and intrusions, and consist chiefly of rhyolite, latite, dacite, andesite, and basalt, this last occurring only in flows. In addition various tuffs and breccias occur. The older of these eruptives were covered by the lacustrine Siebert

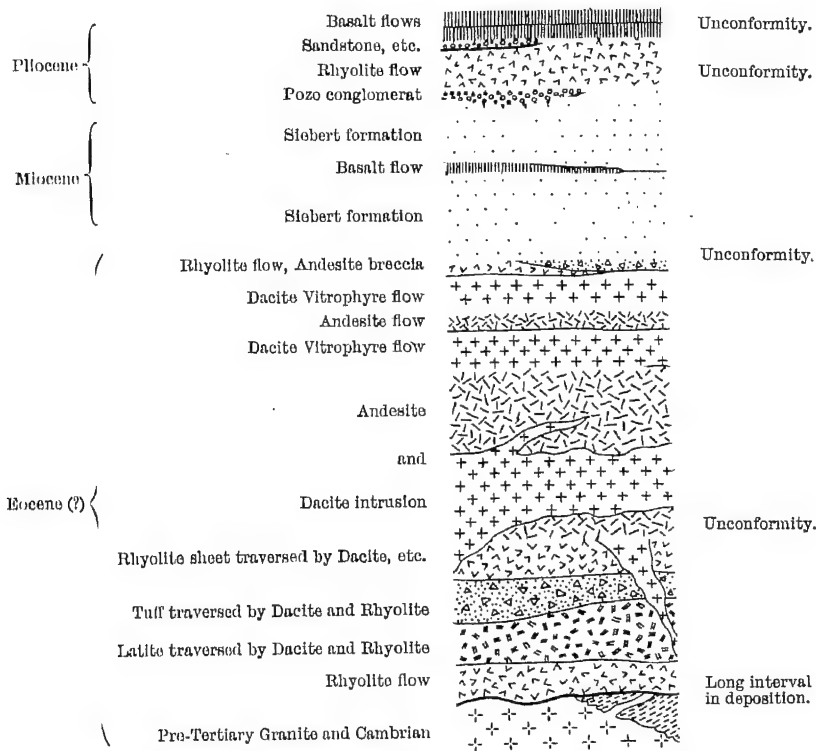


FIG. 304.—Diagrammatic section of the Goldfield district. Ransome, 1909.

formation, 300 m. thick, after the deposition of which a not inconsiderable denudation took place before the basalt was outpoured.

The alunitization already described<sup>1</sup> extends over a large irregular-shaped area, often 1 to 2 km. wide, illustrated in Fig. 305. Within this, and especially in the neighbourhood of the town of Goldfield, the ore fissures are very numerous. Those there present account for 95 per cent of the total gold production, although they are contained within an area barely 1.5 km. long by 1 km. wide. Most of the fissures occur in intrusive dacite and but few in andesite or other rock.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 522.

The ore-minerals are native gold with some pyrite, bismuthinite, famatinite,<sup>1</sup> and small amounts of enargite, goldfieldite<sup>2</sup> with 17 per cent tellurium, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, pyrargyrite, proustite, etc. At least 95 per cent of the gold is native, only a small portion being in combination. Silver is very subordinate, but 1 part occurring for every 7.5 parts of gold. The most important gangue-mineral is quartz, this being accompanied by kaolin, alunite, barite, selenite, and other secondary sulphates. Calcite does not occur in the lode material.

After tremendous eruptive activity followed undoubtedly an extensive

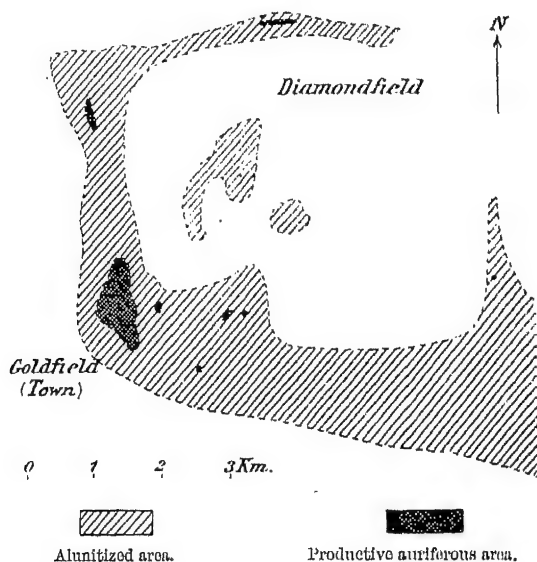


FIG. 305.—Plan of the Goldfield district. The white areas are chiefly andesite, dacite, and vitrophyre. Ransome, 1909.

period of thermal activity, from which the alunitionization resulted. Later still, probably in late Miocene or early Pliocene time, a second more limited thermal period began, to which the introduction of the gold was due. Since the period of ore-deposition the surface has at the most been lowered about 300 m. by erosion. The ore now occurs in irregular fissures, which, being limited along the strike, Ransome did not regard as lodes<sup>3</sup> but as veins.<sup>4</sup>

The production, which in 1903 was small, rose in 1904–1905, and

<sup>1</sup> Copper-antimony-arsenic sulphosalt.

<sup>2</sup>  $5\text{CuS}(\text{Sb}, \text{Bi}, \text{As})_2(\text{S}, \text{Te})_3$ .

<sup>3</sup> Ransome, 'lodes or veins.'

<sup>4</sup> Ransome, 'ledges,' see Preface to Vol. I.



still more rapidly in 1906-1907, amounting in the latter year to 406,756 oz. or 12,876 kg. of gold, equivalent to \$8,455,725 or £1,750,000 when the small amount of silver present is included. Up to the end of

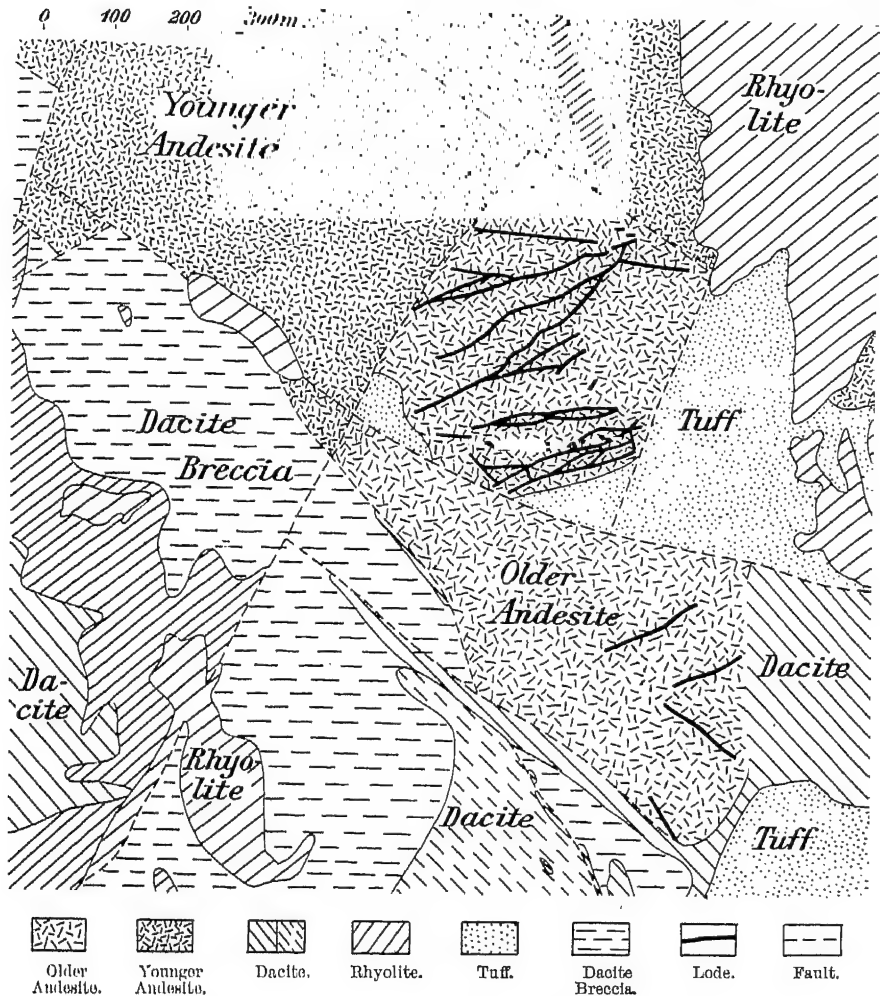


FIG. 308.—Map of the Tonopah silver district. Spurr, 1905.

that year 954,466 oz. or 26,684 kg. of gold, and 116,188 oz. or 3612 kg. of silver, had been produced, equivalent to a total value of 19.8 million dollars or £4,125,000. The present production is about £1,500,000 per year. The ore contains on an average about 50 grm. of gold per ton.

The oxidation zone though very irregular extends generally to a depth

of about 50 metres. A few years ago most of the shafts were only 250–300 m. deep. The value of the ore appears to diminish in depth.

### TONOPAH, NEVADA

The Tonopah silver-field was first discovered in 1900. It lies about

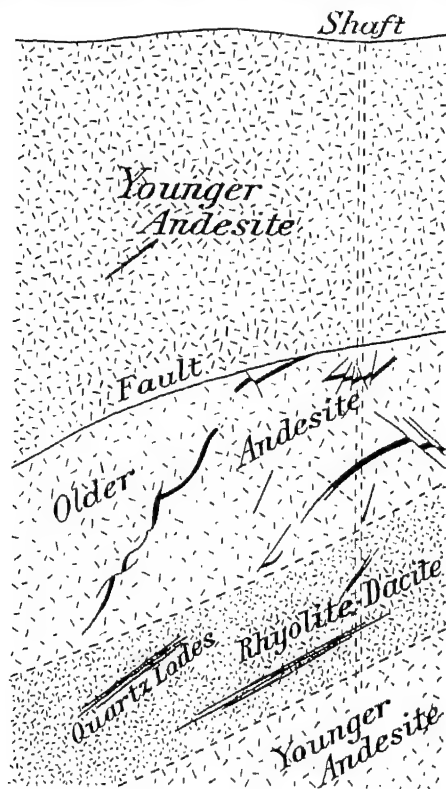


FIG. 307.—Section through the Montana-Tonopah mine.  
Older andesite with lodes; younger andesite; intrusive rhyolite-dacite with lodes.

45 km. north of Goldfield and about 1800 m. above sea-level. Both districts are on the western margin of the Great Basin.

The sequence of the Tertiary eruptives at Tonopah is as follows: an older andesite of a hornblende-biotite variety; a younger andesite of a biotite-augite variety; and later a rhyolite-dacite. Basalt also occurs though only to an insignificant extent. The rocks at this place also, as at Goldfield, are overlaid by the lacustrine Siebert formation. The whole district is traversed by many faults, some of which have considerable throw. These are indicated in Fig. 306.

The more important lodes, carrying 1 part of gold to approximately 100 parts of silver, are found in the older andesite, but not in the younger eruptives. The formation of these lodes consequently took place immediately after the extrusion of the older andesite and before that of the younger rocks. The deposition of the ore probably took place fairly near the surface. These lodes contain the silver minerals, argentite, polybasite, stephanite, etc., with some chalcopyrite, pyrite, a little galena, and sphalerite. Selenium is also present, probably in association with the silver minerals. Quartz is the principal gangue; with it calcite, sericite, and adularia occur to a less extent. In the upper levels secondary cerargyrite, pyrrargyrite, argentite, and native silver, are found.

In addition to these older lodes there are younger lodes associated with the rhyolite-dacite eruption. These also contain silver minerals in a quartz gangue. The gold content is relatively higher than with the older lodes, in spite of which, however, these lodes have not the same economic importance.

The country-rock in the neighbourhood of the lodes is greatly propylitized. The temperature rises in depth almost as rapidly as at Comstock.<sup>1</sup>

Of the 9,508,464 oz. or 295.7 tons of silver produced by Nevada in 1908, no less than 7,172,396 oz. or 223 tons came from Tonopah, in addition to which Tonopah in that year also yielded gold to the value of \$1,624,475 or £338,475.

## MEXICO

### LITERATURE

Vol. XXXII., 1902, *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* is devoted to Mexico. In it, among others, the following papers deserve mention.—J. G. AGUILERA. 'The Geographical and Geological Distribution of the Mineral Deposits of Mexico.'—E. HALSE. 'On the Structure of Ore-Bearing Veins in Mexico.'—W. H. WEED. 'Notes on Certain Mines in the State of Chihuahua, Sonora, and Sonora'; and 'Notes on a Section across the Sierra Madre of Chihuahua and Sonora.'—E. ORDONEZ. 'The Mining District of Pachuca.'—W. P. BLAKE. 'Notes on the Mines and Minerals of Guanajuato.'—J. W. MALCOLMSON. 'The Sierra Mojada and its Ore-Deposits.'—J. P. MANZANO. 'The Mineral Zone of Santa Maria del Rio, San Luis Potosi.'

Among older works are the following: ALEX. V. HUMBOLDT. *Essai politique sur le Royaume de la Nouvelle-Espagne*, III., 1811.—P. LAUR. *Ann. d. Mines*, 6 Sér. XX., 1871.—S. RAMINEZ. *Noticia histórica de la riqueza minera de Mexico*, etc., Mexico, 1884.—E. HALSE. Articles in *Eng. and Min. Jour.*, 1894, 1895; and papers in *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* XVIII., XXI., XXIII., XXIV.—Special descriptions by AGUILERA, ORDONEZ, SANCHEZ, RANGEL, GONZÁLES Y CASTRO, upon Pachuca, 1897, and Real del Monte, 1899, etc.—E. FUCHS and L. DE LAUNAY. *Traité des gîtes minéraux*, 1893.—J. D. VILLARELLO, T. FLORES, and R. ROBLES, upon Guanajuato, guide to the Internat. Geological Congress, Mexico, 1906.—R. ROBLES, upon Hidalgo del Parral, *ibid.*—ANTONIO DEL CASTILLO. *Geological and Ore-Deposit Map of Mexico*, 1889.—Written communications from Ordonez to Vogt.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 517, 562.

In Mexico, the country richest in silver and at present responsible for the greatest production of that metal of any country of the world, the Tertiary eruptives, chiefly Miocene and post-Miocene, have a tremendous distribution, especially in the Sierra Madre the immediate continuation of the Rocky Mountains, and in the hill ranges and enclosed plateau near



FIG. 308.—Map of the silver- and gold deposits of Mexico. A. del Castillo, 1889.  
*Ch*, Chihuahua; *SE*, Santa Eulalia; *SM*, Sierra Madre; *M*, Mapimi; *B*, Batopilas; *S*, Sombreacta;  
*F*, Fresnillo; *C*, Cuatrecasas; *G*, Guadalupe; *LP*, San Luis Potosí; *RO*, Tel Oro; *T*, Tlaxcala; *O*, Oaxaca.

Mexico City. These Tertiary rocks include andesite, dacite, rhyolite, obsidian, perlite, trachyte, phonolite, basalt, etc., with attendant plutonic rocks, agglomerates, and tuffs. According to the geological map of Mexico, these rocks, chiefly as eruptive flows, occupy about half the surface of an area 750 km. long and 200–300 km. wide in the above region.

Of the sedimentary formations present the Cretaceous has the largest extent.

In Mexico too, most of the lodes, carrying silver chiefly but also some gold, are connected both spacially and genetically with young eruptive epochs; indeed the majority of these lodes occur actually within Tertiary eruptives, chiefly in andesite, more seldom in rhyolite, etc., but also in granite and diorite. In addition, there are many which though found in sedimentaries are in the vicinity of eruptives. Of these Aguilera says,<sup>1</sup> "It is evident that they are related to and dependent upon andesitic Tertiary eruptive rocks." The silver belt, as indicated in Fig. 308, first extends as the continuation of the metal province of Arizona, Nevada, etc., along the Sierra Madre, especially its western slope, and then farther south occupies the central plateau mentioned above. Still farther east-south-east many similar lodes are found in the State of Oaxaca, so that the length of this belt within Mexico reaches the astounding figure of 2200 kilometres.

In these Tertiary silver lodes gold is always present, though generally in such small amount as 1 part of gold to 140-400 parts of silver. The principal lode of the Promontario mine in Durango for instance, occurring in rhyolite-porphyry, produced from December 5, 1896, to August 18, 1906, 179.1 tons of silver and 493.2 kg. of gold, or 1 part of gold to about 360 parts of silver.<sup>2</sup> Beside the silver lodes there are in many districts gold- or gold-silver lodes of the same age and genesis, for instance, that important producer of recent years, the El Oro, situated about 100 km. west-north-west of Mexico City; the lodes at and near this mine occur in andesite and Mesozoic sediments. In addition, the following gold lodes which occur entirely in andesite may be mentioned: Taviche in Oaxaca, Ixtlan in Tepic; Cerro Colorado in Chihuahua; and the lodes at Guadalupe-y-Calvo, formerly so famous, likewise in Chihuahua, with 1 part of gold to some 10 parts of silver.

In addition to these Tertiary lodes, Aguilera, Ardenez, and Lindgren<sup>3</sup> mention two other classes of gold deposit, namely:

- (a) Contact occurrences of gold ore with copper ore in diorite and limestone of late Cretaceous or Tertiary age. Such are found more particularly on the eastern slope of the Sierra Madre, well-known instances occurring at Encarnacion and San José del Oro in Tamaulipas, Mazapic in Zacatecas, and farther south at Santa Fé in Chiapas. As described later, a considerable proportion of the copper deposits of Mexico are of contact character, such deposits standing in genetic association with fairly young eruptives.

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1902.

<sup>2</sup> Church Lincoln, *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.*, 1907.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 553.

- (b) Gold lodes with little silver, in granite and other old rocks. These occur chiefly on the west coast of Mexico, in Sonora, Sinaloa, Tepic, Guerrero, and Oaxaca. To these belong among others the lodes of the second most important gold district of Mexico, Minas Prietas in Sonora. These lodes are comparable with those of California.

According to an estimate by W. Lindgren<sup>1</sup> the gold production of Mexico is approximately distributed, as to some 20 per cent from the lodes just mentioned, which are probably Mesozoic; and as to 80 per cent from the Tertiary and chiefly post-Miocene gold- and gold-silver lodes.

Galena and sphalerite, etc., are found in most of the silver lodes of Mexico, especially in depth. In addition, both these sulphides occur particularly in metasomatic deposits in Cretaceous limestone and slate, usually in connection with eruptive rocks,<sup>2</sup> andesite and rhyolite particularly; from these deposits the bulk of the expanding lead production of Mexico is derived; the galena strangely enough is rather poor in silver. Occurrences of this kind are found at: Santa Rosa de Muspuiz, Sierra Mojada, and Mula in Coahuila; Naica and Los Adargas in Chihuahua; La Velardena and Mapimi in Durango; Cerralvo in Nuevo León; Zimapán, Pechuga, Cardonal, and Lomo de Toro in Hidalgo; Caltepec, Santa Ana, and Tehuacán in Puebla; Bramador in Jalisco; Sombrerete, Mazapic, and Noria de Angeles in Zacatecas; and Huetamo in Michoacán.

The following statement of the production of silver, gold, and lead in Mexico from ages past to present time will give an idea of the position.

Tons of 1000 Kg.			
	Silver.	Gold.	Lead.
Yearly Average	1521-1544	3.4	0.2
	1545-1560	15.0	0.2
	1561-1580	50.2	0.3
	1581-1660	84.7	0.4
	1661-1700	106.2	0.4
	1701-1740	197.3	0.6
	1741-1780	333.7	1.1
	1781-1810	559.6	1.4
	1811-1840	302.6	1.0
	1841-1870	458.1	1.8
	1871-1875	601.8	2.0
	1880	701.0	1.4
	1885	772.7	1.5
	1890	1211.6	1.7
	1895	1582.3	8.7
	1900	1786.9	13.5
	1905	1700.2	24.2
	1910	2291.3	33.7
			Nothing or but little
			17,500
			22,300
			68,000
			84,700
			75,000
			110,000

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 554.

<sup>2</sup> Aguilera, 1902, p. 572.

The total production of Mexico from 1851 to 1909 may be estimated at 122,500 tons of silver, worth some 925 million sterling; and about 450 tons of gold, worth about 75 million sterling. Elisée Reclus,<sup>1</sup> basing himself to some extent upon the same data, gives the following figures: from 1521 to 1890 silver to the value of about 800 million sterling, and gold 36 million sterling. The data available for the earlier years are however quite unreliable.

As far back as 1519 when Cortes arrived in Mexico, the Aztecs were found to possess enormous treasure of precious metal, and particularly of gold. Soon afterward several mines were started, Pachuca for instance in 1522, Zacatecas in 1546, Durango somewhat later, and Guanajuato in 1558, while the patio process was introduced in 1557. Under Spanish rule gold and silver mining flourished exceedingly; during, and for some time after the War of Independence it fell; while now, again, within the last twenty years, favoured by the construction of many railways, it is particularly active.

Of the famous silver-mining districts, Pachuca and Real del Monte lie about 90 km. to the north-east of Mexico City; Guanajuato and Veta Madre about 275 km., and Zacatecas and Veta Grande 525 km. to the north-west. Others worthy of mention are Villanueva, Fresnillo, etc., in Zacatecas; Guadalcázar, Catorce, San Pedro near San Luis, etc., in San Luis Potosi; Parral, Santa Eulalia, and Batopilas in Chihuahua; Chipioneña and Carmen in Sonora. Beside these there are a considerable number of other mines, so that the present production of the country is derived from many lodes and is distributed among all the states with the exception of Yucatan. The Tertiary silver lodes generally occur high up in mountainous country; Tasco for instance is 1600 m. above sea-level, Pachuca 2460 m., Real del Monte 2765 m., Guanajuato 2000 m., and Zacatecas 2500 metres.

These Tertiary lodes have quartz generally—often with amethyst and chalcedony—as principal gangue-mineral; in addition calcite, and sometimes also barite. Rhodochrosite, rhodonite, and apophyllite are common. Fluorite on the other hand is absent from most lodes, or only occurs here and there and in small amount. The most common primary silver minerals are argentite, pyrargyrite, proustite, stephanite, polybasite, tetrahedrite, etc. These are accompanied by pyrite, galena, sphalerite, etc.

In the oxidation zone—which with the more important lodes extends occasionally to a depth of 100–150 m.—cerargyrite, bromargyrite, and native silver are found in addition to the usual iron- and manganese oxides, while gold is also often present in considerable amount. These easily amalgamable ores rendered possible the large early production of

<sup>1</sup> *Géographie universelle*, Paris, 1891, Vol. XVII. p. 294.

precious metal. Below this zone masses of silver minerals, chiefly concentrated in bonanzas, often follow. Deeper still the proportion of galena and sphalerite, etc., increases, and most of the lodes so rich above become impoverished. Finally, in depth it is often enough the case that a non-argentiferous lead-, lead-zinc-, or lead-antimonial ore-body is found.

The Fresno mines illustrate this impoverishment in depth. These mines, opened in 1824, had in 1863 reached a depth of 405 m. The total production from 1833 to 1863 was 902,268 kg., during which period, according to Laur, the average silver content was as follows :

1835 . . .	0.225 per cent.	1854 . . .	0.063 per cent.
1839 . . .	0.146 "	1859 . . .	0.062 "
1844 . . .	0.115 "	1863 . . .	0.056 "
1849 . . .	0.078 "		

In accordance with this decrease of value in depth the Tertiary silver mines in Mexico are usually not particularly deep, and though the Valenciana mine on the Veta Madre near Guanajuato some years ago reached a depth of 622 m., a depth of 500 m. is rarely attained even in the most famous mines ; generally it fluctuates between 400 and 500 metres.

Many of the Mexican silver lodes attain a considerable length along the strike ; the Vizcaina, Analco, and San Cristóbal at Pachuca, for instance, have lengths of 16 km., 6 km., and 4 km. respectively, though the width is seldom more than 7 m. The exposed length of the Veta Cantera at Zacatecas is more than 12 km., the width being 12-15 m. on an average, though occasionally more than 30 m. The neighbouring Veta Grande has a similar or perhaps even greater length. The famous Veta Madre at Guanajuato is likewise many kilometres long and occasionally even more than 150 m. in width, so that in mass it is comparable to the Comstock ore-body.

These powerful lodes of Mexico often exhibit a brecciated structure and it is probable that they invariably represent faults. Composite lodes are common. At Pachuca and Real del Monte, which are but 5 km. apart, considerable outbreaks of andesite took place in Miocene times ; later, rhyolite followed, with dacite, obsidian, pitchstone, and tuffs ; and finally basalt. The lodes though chiefly parallel shew many bifurcations and linked veins. At Pachuca, for instance, four principal lodes are worked, namely, the Vizcaina, El Cristo, San Juan Analco, and Santa Gertrudis, besides the neighbouring lodes of Real del Monte. These lodes, which in greater part occur in andesite, are younger than the rhyolite but older than the basalt. Those in most of the other districts, Zacatecas for example, have approximately the same geological position. In others, as that of Guanajuato, they occur in sedimentary formations, the Cretaceous, Triassic, etc., though in close proximity to Tertiary eruptives.



The following figures relative to the production of individual districts will be of interest. The Santa Eulalia district 25 km. east of the town of Chihuahua has since 1703, or roughly during the course of 200 years, produced silver to the value of 28 million sterling; and the Batopilas district about 12 million sterling.<sup>1</sup> Chihuahua, when copper and lead also are considered, is now the most important mining district of Mexico. Pachuca<sup>2</sup> from its discovery, in 1522, to 1901 yielded more than 3500 tons of silver worth more than 31·5 million sterling. One single bonanza of elliptical outline, having the dimensions  $1000 \times 400 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  m., yielded in the course of ten years a value of close upon £3,000,000; another from 1853 to 1883, close upon £6,000,000; while an earlier bonanza is stated to have been richer still. Zacatecas, including Veta Grande, is stated from 1548 to 1832 to have produced silver to the value of almost 150 million sterling, equivalent to some 14,000 tons of silver, though according to other data this figure is too high. Guanajuato<sup>3</sup> in silver and gold has produced as follows: 1701 to 1800, some 279·7 million dollars; 1801 to 1829, some 85·8 million dollars; 1830 to 1887, some 277·6; equivalent to a total of 643·1 million dollars or about 134 million sterling. To this must be added the very considerable production from 1558 to 1700, and that since 1887. Some idea of this latter may be gathered from the fact that during the period 1900–1903 the value produced was 6·2 million dollars. The total production of the Veta Madre at Guanajuato, Humboldt estimated at 80 million sterling. The total production hitherto from Guanajuato may probably also be put down at some 160 million sterling, equivalent to some 17,000 tons of silver. The most imposing impression of the silver production of this country is obtained when it is considered that during the period 1899–1908 almost 2000 tons of silver were produced annually, the actual average having been 1890 tons. Even after the fall in the price of silver at the beginning of the 'nineties, the silver production of Mexico still continued to rise.

In the small Republics of Central America also, several Tertiary silver-gold deposits occur, one of the better known being that of San Juancito in Honduras,<sup>4</sup> which in 1903 produced 21,266 kg. of silver and 113 kg. of gold. The output of gold was greater formerly.

<sup>1</sup> Fuchs and De Launay, 1893.

<sup>2</sup> Ordonez, *loc. cit.*, 1902.

<sup>3</sup> *Trans. Amer. Inst.* Vol. XXXII., 1902, p. clxxxix.

<sup>4</sup> Leggett, *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* XVII., 1889.

## LODES OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN CORDILLERAS AND THE BOLIVIAN SILVER-TIN LODES

### LITERATURE

G. STEINMANN. Über gebundene Erzgänge in den Cordilleren Südamerikas. International Congress, Düsseldorf, 1910; 'Gebirgsbildung und Massengesteine in den Cordilleren Südamerikas,' Geol. Runds. I., 1910, Pts. I.-III.; 'Über die Zinnerzlagertstätten Bolivias,' Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges., Jan. 1907; 'Observaciones geológicas efectuadas desde Lima hasta Chanchamayo,' Bol. Cuerpo, Ing. Min. Peru, Lima, 1904; Die Entstehung der Kupfererzlagertstätte von Corocoro und verwandten Vorkommnisse in Bolivia. Rosenbusch Celebration, Stuttgart, 1906.—A. W. STELZNER. 'Die Silber-Zinnerzlagertstätten Bolivias,' Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges. II., 1897, wherein the works of A. v. Humboldt, A. d'Orbigny, D. Forbes, H. Reck, A. Gmehling, etc., are mentioned. The following works deal especially with Potosi: A. F. WENDT. 'The Potosi Bolivia Silver District,' Trans Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. XIX., 1891.—WIENER. 'Oruro,' Ann. d. Mines, Paris, Sér. 9, V., 1894.—W. R. RUMBOLD. 'The Origin of the Bolivian Tin Deposits,' Econ. Geol. IV., 1909.—EVERDING. 'Untersagen zu einer bergmännischen Lagerstättenbegutachtung im bolivianischen Zinnerzdistrikt,' Glückauf, 1909, p. 1325. The works of Domeyko, Möricke, etc., upon Chili are cited when describing the copper lodes of Chili.

By far the greater number of the metalliferous lodes of the Cordilleras of South America are of Tertiary age. They are always associated with eruptive rocks upon which, both in their occurrence and extension, they are manifestly dependent. Along the 6000 km. length of these Cordilleras the eruptives, according to Steinmann, appear in three forms. The volcanoes which were active in late Tertiary and Diluvial time have long been known. These in their extension coincide essentially with the principal mountain range; they however carry no ore; no lodes are found either in those which are active or those which are extinct, while even the necks of those which have been eroded appear to be equally free.

In these Cordilleras those eruptive rocks which probably belong to early Tertiary must be regarded as the vehicles of the ore. These consist partly of granular plutonic rocks of granitic or dioritic character, constituting the second form of eruptive occurrence; and partly of porphyritic rocks of liparite-trachyte or andesite-dacite nature, constituting the third form. These older eruptives have a much larger distribution than the younger rocks mentioned above, which in addition are generally more basic. Many not unimportant deposits, especially of gold- and copper ore, occur in connection with the early Tertiary grano-diorites in the Andes; but more important still are the lead, silver, copper, zinc, tin, and gold occurrences regularly associated with the andesitic and allied rocks which may be observed everywhere in Peru, Bolivia, and farther south in Chili and Argentina.

The intrusions of andesite or andesite-liparite, and the lodes associated with them, are found concentrated in a wide belt embracing the principal mountain range. In the north of Chili and Argentina, and in Bolivia,

this belt is in places 500 km. wide, a width which northwards and southwards diminishes to 250 km. and even to 100-150 km. To the east, along the ranges which descend on the one side to the lowlands of Brazil, Bolivia, and Argentina and on the other towards the Pacific, the andesites and liparites, and with them the lodes, are less extensive. In detail the association between these rocks and the lodes is more evident still. The andesite and allied rocks generally appear as dykes, lenses, or bosses, which vary from those of small dimension to such as are 10-20 km. across. From their geological situation these may most fittingly be regarded as inclined or vertical laccoliths, which ended blindly without reaching the original surface, and which consequently were not generally accompanied by craters or tuffs.

The lodes with silver sulphide minerals, etc., and locally with tin and gold content, exhibit generally the most intimate connection with these deep early-Tertiary laccoliths. Ordinarily they occur in the eruptive itself or in the closest proximity thereto. This is the case for instance at Potosi, Oruro, Huanchaca, and other Bolivian deposits; and at Cerro de Pasco, Huallanca, Ticapanupa, Tarica, Morococha, Hualgayoc and other places in Peru. Limited occurrences consisting of one or two small lodes of little extent are numerous in the Cordilleras, these being associated with small dyke-like eruptive masses. All the larger and more productive districts, on the other hand, are associated with extensive masses which either consist of large single peaks, as for instance at Cerro de Potosi and Chorolque, or form composite massives as at Cerro de Pasco, Morococha, Oruro, etc. Steinmann from this draws the conclusion that in the Cordilleras there exists a quantitative relation between the bulk of the ore vehicle and the number and content of the lodes produced by it. Similar quantitative relations have already been noticed in connection with some magmatic eruptive deposits.<sup>1</sup>

The lodes of the Cordilleras are in many places found concentrated in the boundary region between the eruptive and the surrounding sediments, as illustrated by the diagrammatic representation of the occurrence at Cerro de Pasco in Fig. 309, where the laccolith has been freed from its mantle of sediments. The uncommonly numerous lodes traversing the marginal portions of the eruptive and adjacent sediments at this place, were remarkable for abnormal richness in silver. In depth these lodes decreased both in number and content. The Socavon Real adit, put in at great expense at the foot of the hill at 680 m. below the summit, disappointed the hopes upon which it was started, in that it encountered but few lodes, and these relatively poor.

The Tertiary gold-silver lodes of the Cordilleras usually contain quantities

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 247, 288, 295.

as the principal gangue-mineral. Fluorite, zeolites, carbonates, and variete are absent from most, though the two last-named appear abundantly in some. With these lodes also, gold and silver are closely associated, these two metals either occurring together in the same lode or in separate though neighbouring lodes. For instance, in the important silver district of Hualgayoc the gold is practically limited to one single lode. Humboldt<sup>1</sup> estimated the average annual precious-metal production of Potosi up to the commencement of the nineteenth century at 481,830 marks<sup>2</sup> of silver and 2200 marks of gold, or 1 part of gold to 200–250 parts of silver.

Many of the lodes are characterized by well-defined primary depth-zones. Those of Cerro de Pasco for instance, which in times past were responsible for the greatest silver production of Peru and for centuries were worked almost exclusively for silver, in depth passed over in part to

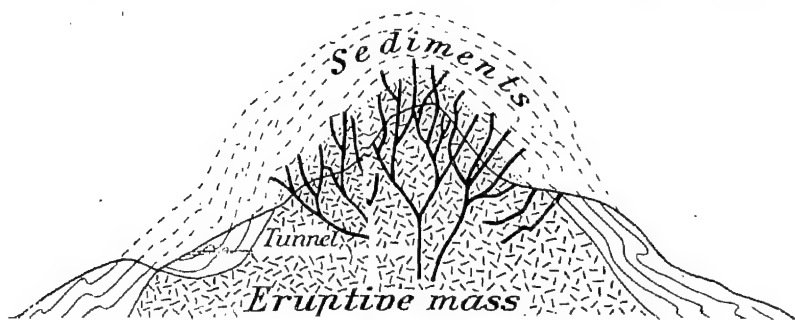


FIG. 309.—Diagrammatic section across Cerro de Potosi, showing the collection of lodes at the contact of the eruptive with the sediments, and the diminution of the number of lodes in depth. The dotted lines represent the beds removed by erosion. Steinmann, 1910.

become copper lodes. In the case of the silver-tin lodes of Bolivia, the tin according to Steinmann is generally found concentrated in the upper levels, while the silver ore is found below. Many of the silver lodes proper contained quantities of secondary silver minerals in the oxidation zone, such for instance as native silver and cerargyrite, which are easily amalgamable; it is nevertheless a striking fact that secondary enrichment such as would constitute a cementation zone is, according to Steinmann, either entirely absent or extremely infrequent.

The silver-tin deposits of Bolivia, which have been more particularly investigated by Stelzner, are of especial interest. They occur in the Eastern Cordilleras or Cordillera Real where active volcanoes are absent, and in the high plateau confined between these and the Western or Coast Cordilleras. In the northern portion of this extent is situated the Titicaca lake at an altitude of 3854 m. above sea-level. The highest point of these

<sup>1</sup> Citation by Sootbeer.

<sup>2</sup> 1 mark = 8 oz.

Eastern Cordilleras, which have an average height of 4700 m., is the lampu with a height of 7513 metres. The average altitude of the Western Cordilleras is 4550 metres. La Paz and Oruro, together with the places lying along the line Oruro-Ujuni to the south, are the delivery stations for the ore, the mines lying almost exclusively east of this line. The deposits of the north-western portion of the Eastern Cordilleras yield tin ore almost exclusively, with quite subordinate silver, bismuth, wolfram, and antimony ores. On the other hand, in the adjoining portion of the broad lode belt to the south-east, silver ores play a prominent part. While formerly silver-mining conducted in the rich ores of the upper levels was alone of economic importance, tin-mining has latterly become more and more prominent. The districts of Potosi and Huanchaca are to-day the most important of the silver-mining districts.

The Western Cordilleras consist of Mesozoic strata, chiefly Jurassic or Cretaceous, which have been repeatedly intruded by young eruptives. Their extent is marked by a long row of volcanoes, some of which are still active. The high tableland between the two Cordilleras is a desolate sandy steppe almost without vegetation and often assuming the character of a salt desert. The Eastern Cordilleras consist of Palæozoic slates, quartzites, and grauwackes, chiefly Silurian and Devonian, which sediments in the most highly contorted portion of their occurrence are seen to be underlaid by granite. All these rocks are traversed by an abundance of tertiary eruptives.

Those unique lodes which contain both silver and tin extend from the 16th parallel in the southern portion of Peru, to the 22nd parallel and perhaps even still farther south. The length of the belt in which they are contained is accordingly about 800 km. It is 300 km. wide. The most important districts are Carabuco, Avicaya, Milluni and Huayna-Potosi, Monte Blanco in the Quinza-Cruz mountains, Colguiri, Oruro, Morococha, and Huanuibi, Llalagua, Colquechaca, Potosi, Porco, Pulacayo, Huanchaca, Chocaya, Tasna, Chorolque, etc. In this last district the mines are from 3500 to 5200 m. above sea-level. The lodes usually carry tin as well as silver in one and the same lode, the intergrowth of the two ores being generally so intimate that the ore is first chloridized and then amalgamated or cyanided for silver, and afterwards dressed for tin. Several lodes in part carry silver ore without tin, or tin ore without silver.

The primary silver minerals are principally sulpho-salts, antimonial tetrahedrite in the first place, then pyrargyrite, proustite, and stephanite, etc. Argentite, the new mineral sundtite, etc., also occur. These minerals, which are here regarded by different authorities as primary, are those which in other districts are found in the cementation zone. Other

undoubtedly primary minerals present are pyrite, arsenopyrite, pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, stibnite, galena, sphalerite, ullmannite, and bournonite, and occasionally abundant bismuth ores. The most important tin ore is cassiterite. The sulpho-stannates stannite,<sup>1</sup> plumbostannite, canfieldite, franckeite, and cylindrite also occur, the first-named being found in some lodes in notable amount. The three last-named contain germanium. The silver-germanium sulpho-salt, argyrodite, which contains 6.5 per cent of germanium, also occurs. The Bolivian silver-tin lodes are relatively the richest in germanium of any hitherto investigated. Tin and germanium belong, as is well known, to the same periodic system. Wolfram, elsewhere the constant associate of cassiterite, is here represented only in some lodes.

The most important gangue-mineral is quartz, which is occasionally accompanied by some calcite and barite. The characteristic minerals of the typical tin lodes,<sup>2</sup> fluorite, tourmaline, lithia-mica, topaz, apatite, and other combinations rich in fluorine and boron are, on the other hand, either completely absent or have only been established as mineralogical rarities. Fluorite is extremely uncommon, while tourmaline, so characteristic of many of the Chilian copper lodes, occurs only sporadically in the Bolivian silver-tin lodes.

Along the lodes a kaolinization of the country-rock is often found, and sometimes a silicification, while greisen formation, otherwise so characteristic of tin, receives no mention. These Bolivian silver-tin lodes, rich in tin, differ essentially therefore in this respect from the ordinary tin lodes, though certain resemblances remain.<sup>3</sup> On the other hand, mineralogically, chemically, and geologically, they agree in their broad lines with the normal Tertiary silver lodes, though naturally with the difference that the Bolivian lodes carry cassiterite and other tin minerals which the normal silver lodes, with but few exceptions, do not.<sup>4</sup>

Stelzner put forward the Bolivian lodes as representative of what he termed the Potosi type in contradistinction to the Schemnitz type of Groddeck. These lodes belong none the less to the Tertiary silver lodes which are distributed along the entire length of the Cordilleras, from Ecuador or Colombia in the north, to Chili and Argentina in the south. It is nevertheless striking that, occurring over a length 800 km. along this lode belt, they should be characterized by richness in tin, while the silver lodes to the north and south, similarly situated geologically, contain none of that metal.

The Bolivian lodes at the outcrop have a stanniferous gossan, in which, according to Stelzner, wood-tin is present as a secondary mineral

<sup>1</sup>  $\text{Cu}_2\text{FeSnS}_4$  with 27.5 per cent Sn.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 413.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 423.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, pp. 423, 548.

derived from primary sulphide tin ores. The ores at the outcrop, containing native silver, cerargyrite, pyrargyrite, proustite, etc., are locally termed *Pacos*, the undecomposed ores in depth are *Negrillos* or black ores, while those between the two are termed *Mulattos*.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to the above-described lodes characterized by the common occurrence of silver and tin and by the comparative absence of the usual tin minerals, there are also in the Eastern Cordilleras, according to Rumbold, a number of tin lodes which carry, in addition to quartz, a considerable amount of tourmaline, and which mineralogically and geologically closely resemble the ordinary tin type.<sup>2</sup> These appear to be associated with a quartz-porphyry which, according to the above-mentioned authority, is older than the Tertiary eruptives. This however requires confirmation. Such tin lodes poor in sulphides are found more particularly at Oruro and in the neighbourhood of Tres Cruces, 90 miles to the north. The greater part of the Bolivian tin ore produced in recent years has probably been derived rather from these more characteristic tin lodes than from the combined tin-silver occurrences.

The economic importance of the silver lodes of the South American Cordilleras may be gathered from the following figures of production, of which the earlier are, however, somewhat uncertain :

	Colombia.	Bolivia.	Peru.	Chili.	Argentina.	Ecuador.
	Tons of Silver.					
Yearly Average { 1545-1560	...	183	48	...	...	...
1561-1580	...	152	46	...	...	...
1601-1620	...	206	103	...	...	...
1641-1660	...	139	103	...	...	...
1681-1700	...	93	103	...	...	...
1721-1740	...	43	103	1	...	...
1761-1780	...	84	122	2	...	...
1801-1810	...	97	151	7	...	...
1821-1830	...	42	58	6	...	...
1841-1850	...	66	108	45	...	...
1861-1870	...	81	72	57	...	...
1880	...	265	158	122	...	...
1885	10	245	49	210	11	...
1890	20	301	66	124	15	...
1895	54	643	115	150	36	...
1900	87	325	204	178	12	...
1905	31	205	156	26	2	1
1910	43	218	202	44	4	2

The total silver outputs from the three principal countries of South America up to 1910 were as follows :

Peru since 1533	.	.	.	35,000 tons of silver.
Bolivia „ 1545	.	.	.	48,000 „ „
Chili „ 1545	.	.	.	6,600 „ „

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 219.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 413.

From these figures it appears that Bolivia with its stanniferous lodes takes first place. The richness of the silver deposits of Potosi discovered in 1545 was enormous,<sup>1</sup> and the total production of this district alone is given as some 30,000 tons. According to Soetbeer the production during the period 1545-1600 amounted to more than one-half the world's production at that time. In depth the lodes became poorer and the district consequently declined. In addition to Potosi other rich lodes have been worked in Bolivia; the *Compagnie Huanchaca de Bolivia* for instance, from 1873 to 1888 produced silver to the value of 50·6 million dollars, of which amount 19·5 million were distributed to the shareholders.

The history of the Bolivian and Peruvian silver mines is briefly as follows: After the conquest of the country by Pizarro in 1533 the output of silver, particularly from the district around Potosi, was very considerable. In the eighteenth century the easily treated ore from near the surface being in greater part exhausted, a decline followed, which during the War of Independence in the early part of the nineteenth century, 1809-1825, became more and more pronounced. The building of railways, however, to remote mining districts in the 'seventies brought about a revival which reached its zenith in the 'eighties, to be followed in turn by a decline consequent upon the fall in the price of silver during the years 1892-1894.

The Bolivian tin ores were formerly either not worked or only inadequately so, for lack of communication. Since the completion of the railways however this particular mining has developed considerably. It is especially the north-western portion of the Eastern Cordilleras which is stanniferous. There, on the southern slope of the Illampu-Illimani mountains at a height of about 5000 m., the tin mines of Huayna-Potosi and Mullini are situated. To the south-east, separated by the valley of the La Place, is the Quinza-Cruz massive, which is reckoned to be particularly rich in tin. The more important mines, most of which however are only in process of development, are the Monte Blanco, Huanchaca de Inguisiri, Concordia, Santa Rosa, and the Capacabana, all about 5000 m. or more above sea-level. South-east of the Quinza-Cruz mountains lie the mines of Colquiri, and isolated on the west slope, that of Araca. The most important tin occurrences at present are El Balcon and Penny Duncan at Huanuni, 30 km. from Machacamarca; and Avicaya, Totoral, and Antequera, 10-25 km. from Paznia. The deposits at Patino and Illalayua in the environs of Unicia are also deserving of mention.

The country-rock on either side of the lode is generally silicified to a light-grey quartzitic rock. The lode itself consists chiefly of quartz,

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 580.



cassiterite, and pyrite, while arsenopyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, galena, and bismuthinite, occur to a less extent.

In the north-western part of the Eastern Cordilleras the characteristic ore is a silicified rock traversed by a network of small veins and fissures filled with cassiterite and pyrite, these minerals sometimes also forming lenses or nests. On the wall a compact layer of mineral 2-5 cm. thick often occurs. As a rule the tin content of the pyrite cannot be distinguished macroscopically, though occasionally crystal individuals may be seen. According to Everding it would appear that cassiterite with quartz occurs more plentifully as an upper primary depth-zone, while compact pyrite containing tin forms a lower zone. The payable portions contain 3-6 per cent of tin on an average, though occasionally the content is as high as 15 per cent. The oxidation zone—which generally extends to a depth of 60 m. below the surface and sometimes as much as 300 m.—consists of limonite and brown-stained rock fragments with unaltered cassiterite.

According to the statistics of the *Metallurgische Gesellschaft*, Frankfurt, the weight of metallic tin in the Bolivian output of ore has at different periods been as follows :

1885 . . .	225 tons of tin.	1900 . . .	6,950 tons of tin.
1890 . . .	1660 " "	1905 . . .	13,000 " "
1895 . . .	4100 " "	1910 . . .	23,000 " "

Bolivia therefore now produces about one-fifth of the world's production of tin.<sup>1</sup> It is responsible at the same time for a material portion of the world's small bismuth production, the districts of Tasna and Chlorolque in the south being the contributors.

## JAPAN

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The gold and silver production of Japan, as may be seen from the following table, has of late years considerably increased; the gold output is to the extent of about one-twentieth derived from gravels :

1875 . . .	191 kg. gold	7,630 kg. silver.
1885 . . .	294 "	26,150 "
1895 . . .	983 "	79,280 "
1905 . . .	5078 "	91,390 "
1908 . . .	5762 "	136,240 "
1909 . . .	3922 "	127,916 "
1910 . . .	4284 "	143,597 "

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 424.





○    □    △    ◇    ☆    ▢    ▣    ▤  
 Lead   Tin   Antimony   Iron   Manganese   Graphite   Sulphur   Coal   Petroleum  
 mineral deposits of Japan.

Serigano in Satsuma, quartz lodes in andesite with pyrite, chalcopyrite, gold and silver, 78 kg. of gold having been produced in 1908; the Yamagano district in Satsuma, many productive quartz lodes in andesite with calcite, pyrite, gold, argentite, etc., 1 part of silver occurring with 5 parts of gold, 370 kg. of gold having been produced during 1908; Sado or Aikwa in Sado, quartz lodes in andesite and tuff, with calcite, dolomite, selenite, native gold and silver, argentite, chalcopyrite, pyrite, galena, sphalerite, and less often stephanite, pyrargyrite, etc., 427 kg. of gold having been produced in 1908; Zuiho in Formosa, where in 1908 about 280 kg. of gold were produced from lodes in Tertiary sediments; Kago in Satsuma, with gold lodes in andesite and liparite; Otani in Satsuma, with lodes in liparite and Tertiary sediments; Ushio and Okuchi in Satsuma, where from gold lodes in andesite 435 kg. of gold were produced in 1908; and finally, Poropets in Hokkaido, where from lodes in liparites and Tertiary sediments 216 kg. of gold were produced in 1908.

The following important mines produce silver chiefly: Kanagase and Tasei, Ikuno in Tajima, with silver- and copper ore in liparite, 6590 kg. of silver having been produced in 1908; Innai in Ugo, with silver ore in andesite, liparite, and Tertiary sediments, production in 1908, 2950 kg. of silver; and Tsubaki in Ugo, with silver- and lead ores in Tertiary sediments and andesite, 38,700 kg. of silver having been produced in 1908.

In addition, many other similar occurrences have been recorded in the provinces Iwami, Ugo, Rikuchu, Kaga, Juwashiro, Iwaki, Mino, Bizen, etc. These are found in andesite and liparite and occasionally also in Tertiary tuff. With some of them silver predominates, with others gold. An intimate admixture of sphalerite, galena, chalcopyrite, pyrite, with gold and silver in varying amount, is found widely distributed in Japan. Such is known locally as *Kuromoro* or black ore. Probably not less than two-thirds of the silver production of Japan in 1908 was derived from this fine-grained mixture. Some silver is also won as a by-product in treating copper ores; from lead ores on the other hand a surprisingly small amount, only one-twentieth of the total production, is recovered.

## SUMATRA

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S. J. TRUSCOTT. *Trans. Inst. Min. Met.* X. pp. 52-73; reviewed in Spurr's *Tonopah* work previously cited.—W. LIEBENAM. 'Review of Truscott's Paper,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 225.—P. KRUSCH. *Untersuchung und Bewertung von Erzlagertstätten*, II. Edit. p. 188.—Written communications from Müller-Herrings to Krusch.

In south-western Sumatra<sup>1</sup> is situated a lode district consisting of a disturbed zone 30 km. in length, along which seven hot springs occur.

<sup>1</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 227.

The lodes of this district are in part large gold-silver lodes with quartz and chalcedony gangue; they have hypersthene-andesite in the hanging-wall and rhyolite of Miocene age in the foot-wall. The former in the vicinity of the lode is propylitized.

The lodes worked in the Redjang Lebong and Lebong Soelit mines in another district, carry gold partly free and partly combined with selenium. The peculiar composition of the gold ore, which has not yet been definitely determined, has all along excited the interest of those geologists who have visited these mines. The gold- and silver minerals are very finely distributed throughout a quartz and chalcedony gangue which, near the walls especially, exhibits crusted structure. The chalcedony is more plentiful in the neighbourhood of the walls than towards the middle of the lode. The rule, demonstrated in the laboratory, that solutions with equal silica content when cooler deposit chalcedony and when hotter tend to the formation of quartz, apparently here finds confirmation.

The lode at Redjang Lebong reaches up to 22 m. in width, while it has so far been developed for a length of 300 m. along the strike. To the north and south at either end it pinches out. The ore treated per year amounts to about 100,000 tons containing 30 grm. of gold and 250 grm. of silver per ton, or 1 of gold to 8 of silver. Selenium occurs to an extent equal to 2-5 per cent of the bullion recovered. It appears to be associated with the silver rather than with the gold. The highly seleniferous slags from smelting have been treated for selenium. Spurr<sup>1</sup> recognizes an analogy between this deposit and those at Tonopah in Nevada.<sup>2</sup> In the year 1906, 1426 kg. of fine gold and 7600 kg. of fine silver were produced, while in the same year from Lebong Soelit, about 18 km. farther to the west, the production was 463 kg. of gold and 645 kg. of silver.

## THE HAURAKI GOLDFIELD, NEW ZEALAND

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J. PARK, F. RUTLEY, PH. HOLLAND. 'Notes on the Rhyolites of the Hauraki Goldfield,' Quart. Jour. LV., London, 1899.—A. M. FINLAYSON. 'Geol. of the Hauraki Goldfield,' Econ. Geol. IV., 1909, wherein many publications in New Zealand are cited.—W. LINDGREN. Eng. Min. Jour. Vol. LXXIX., 1905, p. 218.—J. R. DON. Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. XXVII., 1898.—SCHMEISER and VOGELSANG. Die Goldfelder Australiens, 1897, pp. 92-98.

This goldfield which is situated in the Cape Colville peninsula and neighbourhood, North Island, New Zealand, is connected with a Tertiary eruptive area 125 km. long and 15 to 30 km. wide, consisting chiefly of andesite,

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 525, 570.

dacite, and rhyolite.<sup>1</sup> The lodes found there carry quartz with free gold principally, but occasionally also gold- and silver tellurides. They contain but little pyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, arsenopyrite, stibnite, pyrrargyrite, proustite, etc. Some are gold-silver lodes, as for instance those in the Waihi district, where 1 part of gold is produced to every 30 parts of silver. The deposits occur chiefly in andesite and dacite. The propylitization in connection with these lodes has been exhaustively studied by Finlayson.<sup>2</sup>

In the Thames district, from the discovery of gold in 1867 to the year 1897, gold and silver to the value of about 7·5 millions sterling were won, of which 6 millions were obtained from an area of but 3 sq. km. These lodes were generally poor when their whole length and breadth were considered; they contained however some especially rich shoots or bonanzas. According to Finlayson these shoots were primary and not secondary in character. In depth they became impoverished. Not far away is the Coromandel district and, somewhat to the south, the Karangahake and Waihi districts with gold-silver lodes. The Waihi mine in this latter district from 1890 to 1907 yielded gold to the value of 6·25 million sterling. At other places in New Zealand gold gravels occur, some of which are worked. As will be found stated later,<sup>3</sup> during the last decade the gold production of New Zealand has risen.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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<sup>1</sup> Geological Map in *Quart. Journ.*, cited in the Literature.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 518.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 598.

Western Australia forms approximately the western third of the Australian continent. Its principal goldfields lie to the east and south-east of the town of Kalgoorlie, near the eastern boundary.

According to Woodward, the rocks of this country have been folded into a number of north-south anticlines and synclines, and have been intruded by numerous eruptive rocks. The ordinary section shows granite, gneiss, and schist, which in their disposition form six zones or belts. Reckoning from west to east, only the fourth belt in which the Southern Cross mine occurs, and the sixth belt with the two principal districts of Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie, are auriferous. In the immediate neighbourhood of the two latter districts, Gibb Maitland and Campbell, beside such surface formations as laterite, record the presence of slate, quartzite, quartzite-schist, felsite, amphibolite, porphyrite, mica-schist—all of which probably represent dynamically metamorphosed eruptive rocks—as well as peridotite and its varieties.

The age of these rocks is not clear; the tectonics likewise have been but little investigated, the geological mapping of one section of an unexplored whole being connected with almost insurmountable difficulty. At present, only the disposition of the rocks is known; it is realized that in the gold district not only amphibolites occur, as was formerly supposed, but that slates, etc., are also present. According to Krusch, the rock designated amphibolite is in no sense a single rock but rather a number of different rocks. Two groups of amphibolites may be distinguished, namely, the schistose amphibolite described by Schmeisser and Vogelsang, on the one hand, and the granular hornblende rocks which occur within this thinly bedded variety and show no concern for its bedding, on the other. Gibb Maitland and Campbell recognized this difference and, going farther, divided the massive group into hornblende-, chlorite-, and actinolite-amphibolites. According to Krusch the schistose group is likewise not simple. Concerning the age of these metamorphosed eruptives, it is probable that not only older rocks but younger also suffered deformation.

The gold lodes of Kalgoorlie are intimately associated with the amphibolites. Although the age of these rocks at present cannot be definitely settled, nevertheless, according to Krusch, from the occurrence of the deposits and the nature of their filling, it may be fairly safely concluded that the Western Australian gold lodes belong to the young gold-silver group. Only exceptionally are they simple fissure-fillings; more usually they are composite lodes,<sup>1</sup> that is, they are veined zones consisting of a large number of small fissure-fillings of fairly parallel strike, from which an intense impregnation and replacement of the country-rock proceeded. Quartz and metalliferous minerals were thus introduced, often in such

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 40.





amount that the country-rock became entirely replaced. In this manner compact bodies of quartz with disseminated mineral often arose such as might at first sight give the impression of being simple lodes, while in reality they were formed chiefly by replacement. In such cases it could be seen upon closer investigation, however, that there existed no sharp boundary with the country-rock but that on either wall both silicification and mineralization gradually diminished. Such lodes are illustrated in Figs. 53, 54, and 55. In width they sometimes attain several metres.

The lodes in general strike north-west, and in spite of repeated junctions are broadly speaking parallel. According to Krusch, they may in the central district be divided into three groups. Of these the first and western group includes the lodes in the Ivanhoe, Golden Horseshoe, Great Boulder Proprietary, Great Boulder Main Reef, Hannan's Star, and Great Boulder South mines. The second group lies to the north-east and includes the Great Boulder Perseverance, Lake View Consols, Golden Link Consolidated, Central and West Boulder Associated, South Kalgurli, Hainault, North Kalgurli, and the Kalgurli lodes. East of this again the lodes of the third group extend through the Kalgoorlie Mint, Kalgoorlie Bank of England, North Boulder, Hannan's Oroya, Associated Northern Blocks, Paringa Consolidated, Brownhill Extended, and Hannan's Brownhill.

A certain discontinuity expressed by branching or by an apparent or actual disappearance in depth, is characteristic of individual lodes. The veined zones likewise split up arbitrarily, so that the number of veins in a particular area may occasionally be doubled. Not infrequently on the other hand such a composite lode pinches out completely.

The many lodes lie close together within an area some 3 sq. km. in extent, the so-called 'Golden Mile.' In this small space over a hundred mines work and the individual properties are consequently small, relatively few having attained any considerable production. The best known are the Great Boulder Proprietary, Ivanhoe, Golden Horseshoe, Great Boulder Perseverance, Lake View Consols, etc.

The lode material consists chiefly of quartz, carbonates being but sparingly represented. The quartz contains auriferous pyrite with gold and other tellurides. These sulphides and tellurides are intergrown in the most intimate manner, and though with the miner it is customary to speak of the mass as sulphide ore, this intimate mixture is meant. In the primary zone the tellurides are particularly characteristic, the light conchoidal calaverite, the dark conchoidal petzite, and the quicksilver telluride, coloradoite, being the most frequent, while the other tellurides, krennerite, hessite, altaite, etc., are more uncommon.

Analyses of tellurides or telluride ores have shown that tellurium in part may be replaced or represented by selenium, this latter element

indeed being found in light telluride ores to the extent of several per cent. The intergrowth of telluride gold with free gold is particularly interesting and often seen, such gold without doubt being primary in character. Sulphides such as galena, sphalerite, enargite, etc., are less noticeable. The last-named mineral has this claim to attention, that for some time it was taken for gold telluride. These minerals are accompanied by tourmaline, the presence of which was first remarked by Mariansky, the discoverer of the hitherto unrecognized and consequently unappreciated tellurides.

The gold is not uniformly distributed along the strike but concentrated in shoots which either descend fairly vertically into depth, as was the case at the Ivanhoe, illustrated in Fig. 79, or pitch at an inclined angle, as at the Associated Northern Blocks, illustrated in Fig. 80.

In the case of every goldfield the behaviour of the gold content in relation to depth is most important. Western Australian mining tells the story of decrease of value in depth, though such may be slow. Whether this decrease is due to the disappearance of gold telluride, or whether both the telluride and the auriferous pyrite decrease, are questions which have not been closely investigated. All the lodes near the surface are more or less decomposed by the action of meteoric waters. While those auriferous deposits where the gold is chiefly or exclusively associated with sulphides often show two very characteristic depth-zones—an oxidation zone with its gold in greater part leached, and beneath this an abnormally rich cementation zone<sup>1</sup>—the Western Australian telluride lodes display oxidation and primary zones only, no cementation zone exists. As the oxidation zone carries free gold exclusively, the recovery of the gold from the ore in that zone is simple; the extraction of the gold from the telluride ore, on the other hand, is more difficult. The boundary between these two zones is therefore not only of interest in the study of ore-deposits, but also of importance to the miner and metallurgist; it is consequently most carefully entered upon the mine plans, such an entry being illustrated in Fig. 82. Its course generally proves to be very irregular; while in one mine it may be found but 20 m. below the surface, in the next it may be found at many times that depth.

The free gold resulting from the decomposition of the primary tellurides in the oxidation zone occurs in four forms so characteristic that from hand specimens it may be said whether a particular piece of ore showing visible gold came from the oxidation zone of a telluride deposit, or not. These forms are as follows:

1. Fairly lustreless, mustard-coloured, earthy, loose cavity-fillings, in the form of blotches and coatings, such gold being known as 'mustard' gold; illustrated in Fig. 88.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 215.

2. Filmy coatings of very fine crystals in cracks and crevices, such gold being known as 'flake' gold.
3. Crystals in cavities, matted to larger aggregates, some of which have weighed several kilogrammes. On account of its spongy appearance such gold, which according to Simpson contains but 0.09 per cent of silver, is known as 'sponge' gold.
4. Spots, stars, and small irregular splashes, occurring as thin coatings in fissures or cracks; illustrated in Fig. 89.

While with other gold deposits a cementation zone occurring directly above the primary zone may be so rich as to necessitate the greatest care in appraising such deposits, the oxidation zone which occurs immediately above the primary zone of these auriferous telluride deposits proves to be poorer than this latter. The following figures pertaining to one of the principal mines afford a comparison between the ores of the two zones in respect to their value. It is seen that the ore of the secondary or oxidation zone is in this case but half as rich as that of the primary zone :

AVERAGE OF THE ENTIRE LODE MASS

		Oxide Ore.		Sulphide Ore.	
West Lode about		6 dwts.		about 12 dwts.	
No. 2	"	"	9	"	13
No. 3	"	"	14	"	20
No. 4	"	"	19	"	44

From these considerations it follows that in the formation of the oxidation zone some removal of the gold must have taken place. Perhaps in this removal, abnormal as it is with gold deposits, the presence of tellurium and selenium may be of significance; every metallurgist knows for instance, that gold is soluble in a solution of selenic acid.

*Relation between Gold and Silver.*—Gold and silver, as the analyses of the tellurides indicate, replace and represent one another in all possible proportions. While calaverite may contain from traces up to 4.8 per cent of silver, and krennerite from 3 to 4 per cent, sylvanite contains 9–10 per cent, and petzite 40–43 per cent. All these contain their proper proportion of gold. More argentiferous still is hessite, the pure telluride of silver, which may be regarded as the extreme member of this sequence.

Concerning frequency of occurrence, calaverite poor in silver is the most common, this being followed by petzite which is rich in that metal. Unfortunately, no results of investigation are available to show how much of the gold in these deposits is associated with the tellurides and how much with the sulphides. No exact analytical data therefore exist from which the relation of gold to silver may be calculated. Some idea may however be obtained from other figures. The value of the bullion from each separate mine, that is the gold-silver alloy recovered by

treatment and afterwards parted in the refineries, remains fairly constant. The three most important mines, the Great Boulder Proprietary, the Ivanhoe, and the Golden Horseshoe, produce gold from 79 to 87 per cent fine. Weighting the fineness at each mine by the production, an average of 83 per cent of gold and 17 per cent of silver is obtained, that is to say, the bullion of the most important series of lodes in the Kalgoorlie district consists as to five-sixths gold and as to one-sixth silver.

Still more interesting are the figures when the recovery by amalgamation in batteries and pans is kept separate from that by the cyanide process. The battery gold is then seen to contain 91.1-94.3 per cent of gold and 5.7-8.9 per cent of silver, and the cyanide gold 66.6-78.1 per cent of gold and 21.9-33.3 per cent of silver. The battery gold, which is chiefly free gold, is therefore poor in silver when compared with the argentiferous gold obtained by cyanidation, which in greater part is derived from auriferous pyrite and tellurides. The primary free gold of the Kalgoorlie district consists accordingly of twelve parts of gold to one of silver, while the mineralized gold contains 3 parts of gold to one of silver. The explanation of this striking difference must be sought in the genesis of the deposit. In the endeavour to judge of the phenomena which could so result the following possibilities deserve consideration :

1. A change in the composition of the solutions may have taken place whereby the relation of gold to silver may have altered during deposition.
2. The mineral solutions may have remained unaltered but different precipitants may have become active, one after another.
3. The mineral solutions may have remained unchanged but two differing precipitants may have been operative at one and the same time, both of which were effective for gold, and one, in addition, strongly effective for silver.
4. The mineral solutions may have remained in general unaltered, and but one precipitant may have been active, which however possessed the property of precipitating native gold comparatively pure, and at the same time mineralized gold alloyed with silver.

The last case appears the most simple ; it explains quite well the structure of the ore and the simultaneous formation of non-argentiferous and argentiferous gold.

It is interesting to consider the limit of payability on this field, and its fluctuations. In the year 1903 this was 15 grm., of gold per ton ; to-day the reduction processes have so improved that in spite of extremely high wages the cost is covered by 8-10 grm., any content above this figure being profit. The richest mine of this goldfield, the Great Boulder Proprietary,

in its yearly report for 1910 gave the following average figures of cost for different years :

In 1907	24s. 9d.	equivalent to	9.1	grm. per ton.
„ 1908	25s. 8d.	„	9.5	„ „
„ 1909	26s. 0d.	„	9.6	„ „
„ 1910	26s. 2d.	„	9.7	„ „

The figures in the second column obviously express the limit of payability of the ore in this mine as a whole. For comparison, the value of the ore-reserves at different levels in the Main Shaft and on the Main Lode are as follows :

Feet.	Dwt. per Ton.	
400-500	30.06	Average value to 1300 ft. = 22.74 dwt.
500-600	8.60	
600-700	18.51	
700-800	28.52	
800-900	32.07	
900-1000	20.95	Average value 1300 to 2350 ft. = 13.8 dwt.
1000-1100	26.52	
1100-1200	19.12	
1200-1300	20.33	
1300-1400	14.17	
1400-1500	13.52	
1500-1600	13.45	
1600-1750	10.21	
1750-1900	11.18	
1900-2050	11.12	
2050-2200	17.30	
2200-2350	19.48	

These figures taken in their entirety indicate that in the case of the richest mine at Kalgoorlie there is also a decrease in gold content in depth.

The Kalgoorlie goldfield was discovered in the beginning of the 'nineties. In 1896 the telluride ores were recognized. The economic conditions under which these mines worked at the time of their discovery were very unfavourable. The plateau on which they occur is without water, for which, according to Gmehling, twopence-halfpenny was paid per gallon. To-day Kalgoorlie is connected with Perth by railway, and the goldfield may now be reached from the coast after fifteen to twenty hours in a comfortable express train. The water question has also been solved in a generous manner by the government, which in 1903 laid a pipe-line capable of delivering 5 million gallons per day all the way from Perth, a distance of 325 miles, selling the water at the rate of six shillings per 1000 gallons, whereas previously the price for the same quantity had been about forty-six shillings. As with the water, all fuel and mine stores must be transported all the way from the coast.

The present importance of this field, compared with which the other goldfields of Western Australia are of little account, may be gathered from the following statistics :

## GOLD PRODUCTION IN OUNCES OF FINE GOLD

Year.	Western Australia.	Australasia.	World's Production.
1902	1,819,308	3,989,083	...
1903	2,064,801	4,315,759	...
1904	1,983,230	4,220,690	...
1905	1,955,316	4,156,194	...
1906	1,794,547	3,984,538	...
1907	1,697,554	3,659,693	20,121,423
1908	1,647,911	3,546,912	21,448,554
1909	1,595,263	3,447,227	22,230,116

According to these figures the production of Western Australia approximates one-fourteenth of the world's production and not quite one-half of the total production of Australasia, towards which in 1909 Victoria contributed 654,222 oz., Queensland 455,577 oz., New South Wales 204,709 oz., Tasmania 44,777 oz., South Australia 7500 oz., and New Zealand 485,179 oz. Western Australia therefore in respect to its gold production easily takes first place among the countries of Australasia, a prominence which makes it all the more regrettable that since 1903 there has been a continuous decline, such as must be connected with decrease of value in depth, particularly below about 700 metres.

## ALTENBERG NEAR SEITENDORF

## LITERATURE

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Altenberg in Silesia, so long as only the Bergmannstrost lode with its arsenic-lead-silver content was worked, was known as a lead-silver mine; the subsequent discovery of copper-bearing lodes caused it next to be placed among the copper deposits; while quite recently attention was called to the high gold-silver content of newly discovered lodes, and now, according to Beyschlag and Krusch, Altenberg is more properly classed with the gold deposits.

The district consists of highly metamorphosed, dark grey, bluish-black, and dark green slates, the age of which, though not yet definitely established,

may with some assurance be considered as Silurian. These sediments alternate with sheets of prevailingly brick-red or speckled porphyry, diabase, and schalstein, and are crossed by younger porphyry dykes radiating from neighbouring porphyry peaks. In relation to the ore-deposits two eruptive rocks having little observed extension underground, are of especial importance. Of these the first has long been known as olivine-kersantite,<sup>1</sup> while the second, according to microscopic examination, may be regarded as a propylite the parent rock of which has not yet been determined. The olivine-kersantite maintains the closest connection with the Bergmannstrost lode, in that it often occurs within the actual fissure of that lode, thicknesses of it alternating with ore. From the exposures underground this eruptive is undoubtedly older than the lode. Apparently a re-opening of the fissure along the eruptive took place, and a veined zone following the kersantite was formed, which subsequently became filled by metalliferous material deposited from ascending solutions.

The lodes of Altenberg are simple lodes. That best known is the above-mentioned Bergmannstrost lode which has a characteristic filling of arsenopyrite with galena, sphalerite, tetrahedrite, etc., together with considerable silver. Further work prosecuted underground to prove the many lines of ancient workings to the north, has revealed the presence of eight other lodes. Most of these, like the Bergmannstrost, strike a little south of east and north of west, though the Wandas-Hoffnung and the Hermanns-Glück lodes extend in a north-east direction. Almost all, including the Bergmannstrost, dip  $60^{\circ}$ – $75^{\circ}$  to the north; occasionally they are flatter or steeper, but seldom do they dip the other way. Along the drives the change from one country-rock to another is abrupt. The ore in the slates usually carries more precious metal than that in the porphyry. The lode material has an irregular-coarse structure, the barren gangue occurring in smaller quantity than the ore. The entire width sometimes consists of solid chalcopyrite or arsenopyrite, these two minerals apparently replacing and representing one another.

The character of the lode-filling in the northern lodes differs from that of the Bergmannstrost in so far that with them copper plays an essential part. In addition, the high gold content of the Mariä-Förderung and the Wandas-Hoffnung is particularly noteworthy.

Poorer and richer parts alternate in both strike and dip. Towards the east the lodes appear to become impoverished; the lode-filling then consists chiefly of quartz and subordinately of siderite, with ore sparingly distributed. Towards the west the lodes are affected by disturbances which have locally robbed the lode of its ore.

Seeing that the district is not yet widely recognized as auriferous, some

<sup>1</sup> After Krusch.

figures indicative of the precious-metal content will be of interest. The following were those obtained by Beyschlag and Vogt in their examination :

			Grammes per Ton.	
Lüschwitzgrund Lode	.	.	Trace gold	46.0 silver.
Mariä-Förderung Lode	.	.	16.5 „	170.6 „
Olgas-Wunsch Lode	.	.	3.0 „	72.0 „
Wandas-Hoffnung Lode	.	.	26.6 „	221.6 „
Bergmannstrost Lode	.	.	Trace „	146.0 „

If the gold content be compared with that of the silver, it is seen that in the relation between these two metals the occurrence at Altenberg possesses great similarity to the lodes of the young gold group. It is true that on surface no young eruptive rock to which the gold and silver content might be referred is known, and that the Bergmannstrost, in addition, is in all probability a lead-silver lode ; there is however a very good suspicion that the gold present in the northern lodes is considerably younger than the filling of the Bergmannstrost. Although the question has not definitely been settled, present information indicates that Altenberg should be classed under the young gold-silver group.



## THE OLD GOLD LODES

While the young gold-silver lodes without exception maintain the closest association with young Tertiary eruptives, the old lodes now to be described exhibit in general no connection with such ore-bringing rocks, and in those exceptional cases where such may be observed, the particular eruptives are old. Apparently therefore the connection between these lodes and eruptive magmas is not so close as is the case with the young gold-silver lodes.

Concerning the form of the deposit a difference may likewise often be remarked. While, for instance, in the case of the young gold-silver lodes composite lodes, in addition to simple lodes, often play an important part, those of the old group, so far as yet known, are exclusively simple lodes, the filling being usually sharply separate from the country-rock. In addition, with the older lodes the length along the strike is more considerable; the one which has been followed for the greatest length is the Mother Lode of California, this indeed being among the most important fissure-fillings known. Naturally with such an extension as this lode has, it is not a question of one and the same simple fissure throughout, but a series of fissures so arranged that when one pinches out a new one sets in, a little to the side, to maintain the continuity. In dip also these lodes often have a considerable extension, some of the Californian mines, for instance, are at present working at depths from 700 to 1000 metres. The width reaches some few metres at the most, this being materially less than the maximum width of the young gold-silver lodes. The nature of the separation of the lode from the country-rock is always an important factor, and in this connection also there is a difference; with the young gold-silver lodes an impregnation of the country-rock often plays an essential part, while with the old gold lodes this is seldom the case; the occurrence at Roudny in Bohemia is however an exception.

The filling of the old gold lodes is simple. Usually quartz is by far the most abundant gangue-mineral present, so that the lodes strictly speaking may be regarded as a special form of quartz lode. The most

frequent ore is auriferous pyrite, in which, when in the primary zone, the gold content is not usually to be seen, free gold being present only to a subordinate extent. It is consequently advisable to assay for gold all quartz lodes which carry pyrite. Only in exceptional cases does the amount of pyrite so increase that the lodes become pyrite lodes, with quartz subordinate. The other sulphides, such as galena, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, and the sulpho-compounds, play usually no important part.

To the same extent that the gold content is difficult to recognize in the primary zone, so does it become prominent as the lode decomposes under the action of meteoric waters. It was indeed from experience with these lodes that the importance of the migration of the gold content as a factor in reckoning possible ore-reserves was first appreciated. As previously stated, in the decomposition of pyrite by meteoric waters, ferric sulphate is formed which dissolves gold; in the presence of pyrite therefore gold continues to be dissolved so long as oxygen is present. After the consumption of the oxygen the undecomposed sulphides of greater depth act reducingly upon the descending solution, precipitating the gold as free gold, the affinity of this for oxygen being very small. The gold of the cementation zone may always be recognized by the fact that it either coats primary sulphides or fills cracks within them, or, as is more frequently the case, it occupies fissures and cavities within the quartz, such quartz being generally light brown in colour. Wetting the quartz is of assistance in discerning such gold. In the oxidation zone the precious metal occurs very sparingly, and when occurring is generally found in close association with a gelatinous limonite resulting from pyrite.

The recognition and determination of the secondary and primary zones<sup>1</sup> of these lodes is of the greatest importance to all concerned, to the economic geologist as well as to the miner, on account of the large differences in the metal content of the different zones.

Since the old gold lodes consist chiefly of quartz, by weathering they often become freed from the less resistant country-rock upon their flanks, when they protrude at the surface as walls, ledges, or reefs; such an outcrop is illustrated in Fig. 312. In this they further differ from most of the young gold-silver lodes. As a rule the greater portion of the oxidation zone has long surrendered to erosion, and the enriched cementation zone often appears at the surface. The relative ease with which such lodes are discovered, free gold being readily detected by simple crushing and washing, has often given untrained prospectors a reputation for a knowledge of ore-deposits which they were far from deserving.

Chemically, the gold of these lodes is usually substantially purer

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 211, 212.

than that of the young gold-silver lodes. As previously stated, these latter carry gold and silver in variable proportion so that all gradations exist between gold lodes with little silver and silver lodes with little gold. In the case of the group now being described however, the lodes are gold lodes pure and simple. The consequence is that the bullion recovered from the young gold-silver lodes usually has a different composition from that of the old lodes; while with the former there may be 60 per cent of gold and 40 per cent of silver, with the latter there is at least 90 per cent of gold and at most 10 per cent silver.

Concerning primary depth-zones, experience with the old gold lodes appears to have been more favourable than with those of the young gold-silver group. Mining operations have nevertheless shown that a



FIG. 312.—Outcrop of a gold lode with granite blocks in the background, Iramba plateau, German East Africa. Scheffler.

large percentage of the old lodes also have only proved profitable in the cementation zone, the primary ore having been unpayable. Where however the primary ore is rich enough to work, the gold content may continue to depths of 1000 m. or more. With these lodes therefore the ore is more persistent in depth than is the case with the young gold-silver lodes.

Finally, mineralogically it is interesting to note that tourmaline is more often found with the old lodes than with the young, while gold telluride, which occurs plentifully in some young gold-silver districts, is a rare occurrence in the old lodes. As already mentioned, auriferous pyrite is the most common ore-mineral of these lodes, the other sulphides occurring subordinately. There are however gold lodes in which the gold is accompanied particularly by arsenopyrite, stibnite, and sometimes also by bismuthinite. Mineralogically therefore several classes may be

differentiated; of these however, the first-named, that associated with pyrite, is by far the most important.

The gold-quartz lodes with their rich cementation zone naturally tend to the formation of auriferous gravels. It has therefore almost invariably been the case that before the lodes were more closely investigated attention was first devoted to such gravels. Since also such gravel-mining was very cheap and the yield often very considerable, lode-mining was only undertaken when the decline in the productiveness of the gravels compelled such new endeavour. Consequently in new districts of this character, production generally rises very rapidly at first and large profits are returned; and then, with the approaching exhaustion of the gravels a decline gradually becomes established which as a rule it is not possible to stay, even though with all energy it is sought to make good the deficit from the gravels by development upon the lodes.

## THE GOLD DEPOSITS OF CALIFORNIA

### LITERATURE

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The following exposition is based chiefly upon the above-cited excellent work by Lindgren, the greatest authority upon the Californian gold deposits, and especially upon the resumé beginning on page 49 of that work. Three groups of deposits occur: firstly, those on the Mother Lode between Mount Ophir and Placerville; secondly, those to the north near Grass Valley and around Nevada City; and thirdly, those to the south-east of Placerville near Grizzly Flat. The relation of these places to one another is seen from Fig. 313.

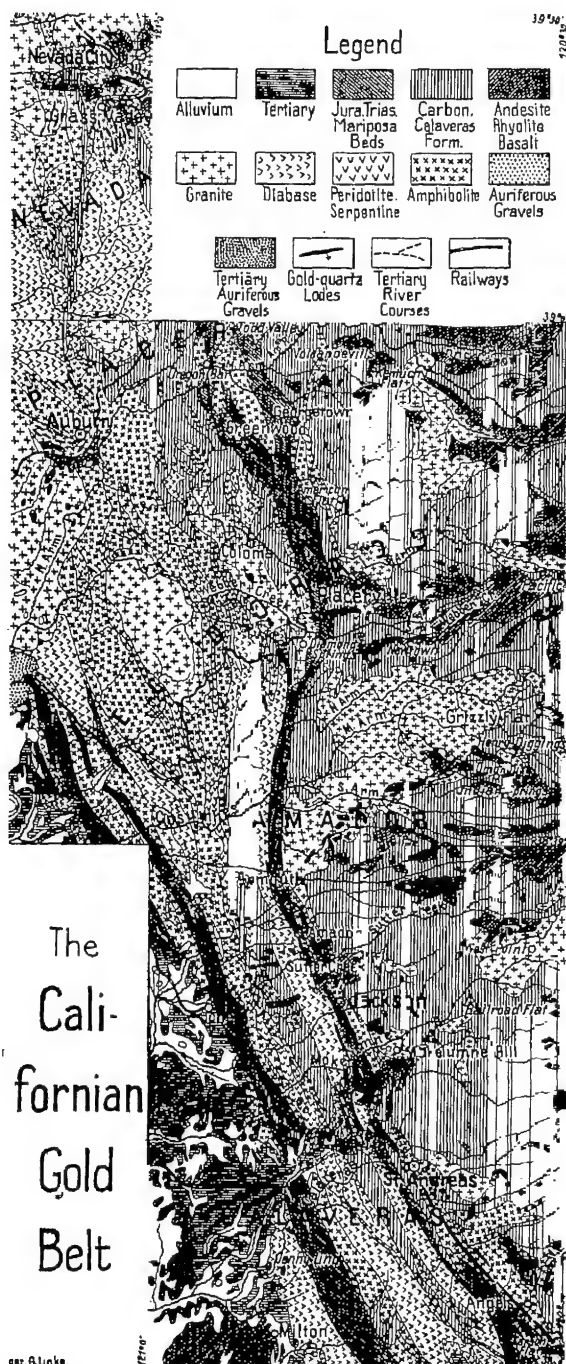
*Historical.*—Gold was first found in the Sierra Nevada in January 1848 at Coloma, Eldorado Co.; in 1850 several thousand men were working in the Nevada district; and in 1856 Nevada City was already a town of

ose upon a thousand houses. In 1880 the number of inhabitants of that city was 21,000, a number which afterwards diminished when, in consequence of the introduction of hydraulic methods, less hand labour was required. An equally rapid development followed in the other districts of this gold belt. At first, production increased by bounds, only however to decrease as the gravels became exhausted and the miner was forced to work the primary deposits. In this regard Californian experience may be taken to represent the normal sequence of events which may be expected to develop in every newly discovered gold-quartz field.

*Geological Circumstance.*—According to Lindgren, the Sierra Nevada consists in greater part of members of the Calaveras formation, this formation embracing the Palæozoic beds of this mountain chain. Of these beds those of Carboniferous age predominate, though the right of such to be considered Carboniferous can be verified in but few places. Concerning the disturbances to which this region was subjected, the first plication took place at the end of the Palæozoic or at the beginning of the Mesozoic period; this was accompanied by eruptive outbreaks which began in part during the Carboniferous. In Jurassic-Triassic time the greater portion of the Sierra Nevada was dry land; in such relatively small areas as were occupied by lakes, the Mariposa beds consisting of dark carbonaceous slates and of volcanic tuffs, were laid down. Then followed another period of intense orogenics, to which enormous masses of eruptive material of varying character and structure owe their existence. During this period both the recent and the older rocks were intensely plicated, while diabase and porphyrite with their tuffs appeared as flows and dykes. Finally, as the mightiest phase of the volcanicity, came the eruption of the grano-diorite magma. Under such intense tectonic conditions numerous fissures became formed which in part were filled with gold ore. The formation of the gold lodes in the Sierra Nevada may therefore to a certain extent be regarded as the last phase of the Mesozoic crustal revolution in that region. Since that time these mountains have been dry land. In the latter portion of the Neogene or latest Tertiary period, volcanic eruption and plication began anew, rhyolite and andesite being extruded to form those gigantic lava masses which give to the Sierra Nevada their present configuration.

Since according to Lindgren the gold lodes are of Cretaceous or in part of pre-Cretaceous age, the relation they maintain to the older north-north-west mountain folds is striking. These lodes form many systems, and often appear on the surface in long lines of quartz outcrops.

Previous to the exhaustive investigation of Lindgren in 1895, the numerous works upon Californian lodes and mining districts had not led to any general conclusions, as the individual authors had only investigated



separate districts and a general review had not fallen to the lot of any single authority. The dependence of the lodes upon the belt of metamorphic slates was already recognized by Whitney. While in the granite areas of southern California but few lodes occur—and these only close to the slate boundary—in the slate region of middle and northern California many are found, all the different rocks within the metamorphic belt participating fairly equally, ore-deposits being found in granite, diorite, gabbro, serpentine, quartz-porphryite, augite-porphryite, hornblende-porphryite, diabase, amphibolite, as well as in more or less altered clay-slate, sandstone, and limestone.

Since gold-quartz conglomerates are found in the foot-wall of the metamorphic series, some of the lodes most certainly were of very great age; as pointed out

by Whitney and von Richthofen however, the majority and the richest are late Jurassic or early Cretaceous, and to be regarded as the thermal after-effects of the eruptive phenomena of that time.

In detail, both the strike and dip of the lodes are very variable, owing to numerous more recent mountain movements, and to the fact that the rocks in which the fissures were originally formed offered varying degrees of resistance to fracture. In the massive rocks, for instance, the fissures are more or less sharply defined and in good line; in the slate they have followed different planes and become indefinite; while in rocks of medium solidity they are developed as networks of fissures. The dip varies between  $20^{\circ}$  and  $70^{\circ}$ . The width is extremely variable, reaching in isolated cases 5 m. though generally much less. The length is also very variable, though in most cases it is short; seldom may a lode be followed for more than one or two kilometres, the gigantic Mother Lode being however a unique exception.

The lode-filling consists chiefly of milk-white quartz of irregular structure generally and but seldom crusted. Other gangue-minerals occur locally and only in relatively small amount; thus calcite and dolomite, chiefly on the walls; some whitish and greenish micas, albite, titanite, ilmenite, and anatase. The gold likewise is irregularly distributed in the mass and is usually of microscopic fineness; occasionally it is visible as flakes, threads, or small irregular blotches; more rarely it forms larger masses, some having been found up to 25 kg. in weight. Generally it contains but little silver, this metal only very exceptionally reaching 30 per cent. The precious metal is accompanied by auriferous pyrite, pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, and galena; less frequently by arsenides, especially arsenopyrite; more seldom still by antimonides or tellurides; while marcasite is hardly ever present.

The lodes in grano-diorite are almost invariably richer in sulphides than those in other rocks; pyrrhotite for instance appears to be limited to lodes in grano-diorite. In dark clay-slate the sulphides are represented almost entirely by pyrite with occasionally some arsenopyrite. Lodes in gabbro often contain copper. Exceptions to these generalizations are however so numerous that the influence of the country-rock upon the ore present, cannot be regarded as well defined.

With the larger lodes the precious metal is more often found concentrated on the walls, while the middle part of the lode is unpayable; the gold content may however be uniformly distributed throughout the whole section of the lode. Often irregular bodies of payable ore occur within extensive unpayable areas. Sometimes elongated lenticular ore-shoots exist the pitch of which, independent of the dip of the lode, is generally steep and seldom below  $45^{\circ}$ . The width of such shoots varies between

1 and 100 m., while the length may be 600 m. or more. If in depth a shoot gives out, another is often found at greater depth along the same line. Many of the lodes contain the gold in small nests or bunches. With an increase in the gold content an increase in the quantity of sulphides present is always observed.

The alteration of the country-rock along the lodes is particularly characteristic. In intensity this generally varies with the width of the lode; when the width is great the alteration may extend as much as 10 metres. Only very acid massive rocks and certain carbonaceous slates appear to have been but little affected. Serpentine appears to have suffered most, with increase of lime and decrease of magnesia. In the immediate neighbourhood of the lodes the country-rock not infrequently exhibits parallel jointing, pressure schistosity, or brecciated structure.

*Individual Occurrences.*—(1) At Nevada City and Grass Valley are found a large number of lodes situated roughly 20 miles north of the last outlying representatives of the Mother Lode, from which lode they also differ in their general character. Their width is small but the gold content is comparatively high. Free gold occurs both near the surface and in depth, while in addition there is a variable gold-silver content in the sulphides present. The strike is extremely variable, though speaking generally it may be said that the lodes are arranged in two main systems, a north-south and an east-west. The dip is low and irregular, nor can any general rule concerning it be formulated. In relation to production the Grass Valley district comes first, then follows that of Nevada City, while the Banner Hill district ranks third. A considerable portion of the output comes from the Eureka, Idaho, Rocky Bar, North Star, Empire, and Providence mines.

From the ordinary type of gold-quartz lode some lodes of less importance in Grass Valley deviate, in that chalcopyrite and bornite are the valuable minerals, and calcite, quartz, and felspar, the principal gangue-minerals.

(2) The Mother Lode of California, forming as it does with its 150 km. of length the most important payable lode in the world, is widely known. It consists of a large number of linked fissures which together form a gigantic veined zone at the foot of the Sierra Nevada, this position being indicated in Fig. 313. This zone generally dips  $50^{\circ}$ – $70^{\circ}$  to the east, as do the slates in which it occurs. The width of the separate lodes may reach as much as 10 m., but usually it is less than 1 m. The frequent connection of the fissures with eruptive rocks is remarkable. The quartz, which is usually milk-white, tends to break into parallel flakes, such quartz being known as ribbed quartz. The gold is either free and finely distributed, or associated with pyrite. As with all the gold lodes in California, the



concentration of the precious metal in ore-shoots is characteristic. To the north and south, at both ends, the Mother Lode splits up.

(3) The deposits at Grizzly Flat to the south-east of Placerville are less important. They occur at the contact of the Calaveras slates with granite, and likewise carry gold in a quartz matrix.

With all the Californian gold lodes the relation of the gold content to depth is interesting. Lindgren in his work, *Ore Deposition and Deep Mining*, reports the experiences of some of the mines working on the Mother Lode at depths which in 1905 varied between 1766 and 2863 feet. The Kennedy at 2700 feet, Central Eureka at 1900–2200 feet, Oneida at 1900 feet, and Gwin at 2000 feet, all worked at a profit the ore at these respective depths, this ore containing free gold and being of similar character to that near the surface. A difference was only in so far observed that pocket-like enrichments were less frequent in the deep workings than they had been above. According to Lindgren, in California the hope to find payable ore in still greater depths is justified, though he was of opinion that in any case at a depth of 5000 feet temperature would put a stop to mining. Assuming that a thickness of 3000 feet had been removed by erosion, he came to the conclusion that in California free gold was originally deposited down to a depth of 6000 feet below the then surface. In 1909 some mines in Amador Co. were working upon the Mother Lode at a depth of 3400 feet, at which depth the character of the ore showed no alteration.

Knochenhauer gives 15 to 20 grm. per ton as the average content of the payable ore of California, though the content of the cementation ore has not infrequently reached 160 grammes.

Concerning genesis, Lindgren concluded that the aqueous solutions from which the gold-quartz lodes were formed, in addition to silica contained large amounts of carbonic acid, calcium carbonate, and sulphur, the last as sulphuretted hydrogen or sulpho-salts. Such waters however are in nature only found ascending, and generally they are hot springs. The ultimate source of the gold must therefore be sought deeper, and perhaps in granitic rocks or magmas.

The earlier gold production of California may be gathered from the table on p. 554, in considering which it must be remembered that at the beginning gravel-mining played the greater part. The present annual production is 18–21 million dollars, that of the United States as a whole being about 100 millions. In the year 1908 gold to the value of 19,329,700 dollars was won, in addition to not quite 2,000,000 dollars of silver. In 1909 the gold production was estimated at 21 million dollars, with practically the same silver production as before. In the gold production the proceeds from both primary and gravel-deposits are

included. Of the gold produced from quartz lodes the Grass Valley district in Nevada Co. yields the largest quantity, its output exceeding by far that of individual counties upon the Mother Lode. All the gold-quartz mines together produce yearly about two and a half million tons of ore, of which two millions are milling ore with a gold content of 5-5.75 dwt. per ton, while the remainder is copper ore containing gold and silver. The quartz mines produce annually some million more dollars than the gravel-deposits. Those of the Mother Lode in the Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, and Tuolumne counties, yield three-quarters of the total milling ore, the content of which at 4 dwt. per ton is nevertheless less than that of the remaining counties, where the lodes though smaller are richer.

### THE TREADWELL DEPOSIT, ALASKA

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G. F. BECKER. 'Reconnaissance of the Gold Fields of Southern Alaska,' 18th Ann. Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey, 1898.—A. C. SPENCER. 'The Geology of the Treadwell Ore-Deposit,' Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., Oct. 1904; 'The Juneau Gold Belt, Alaska,' U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 225, 1903, p. 28.

This deposit, occurring on Douglas Island opposite Juneau City, Alaska, is remarkable in that primary gold ore of a remarkably low content is worked at a profit. An albite-hornblende rock, sometimes described as a soda-syenite and sometimes as albite-diorite, is traversed by a number of quartz stringers carrying both free and mineralized gold. From these the country-rock involved is more or less impregnated. In addition to pyrite; chalcopyrite, arsenopyrite, pyrrhotite, sphalerite, and galena also occur. Quartz is uncommon. Since the main ore-body is an intrusive zone up to 150 m. in width, vast quantities may be mined at an extremely low cost, and although the average content of the ore varies in general between 3 and 5 grm. per ton, a net profit is obtained. It must be expressly understood however, that such a low content does not in general suffice for profitable mining, and accordingly the abnormally low costs obtaining in the Treadwell mines must not be taken as being applicable elsewhere.

### THE GOLD-QUARTZ LODS OF AUSTRALASIA

#### LITERATURE

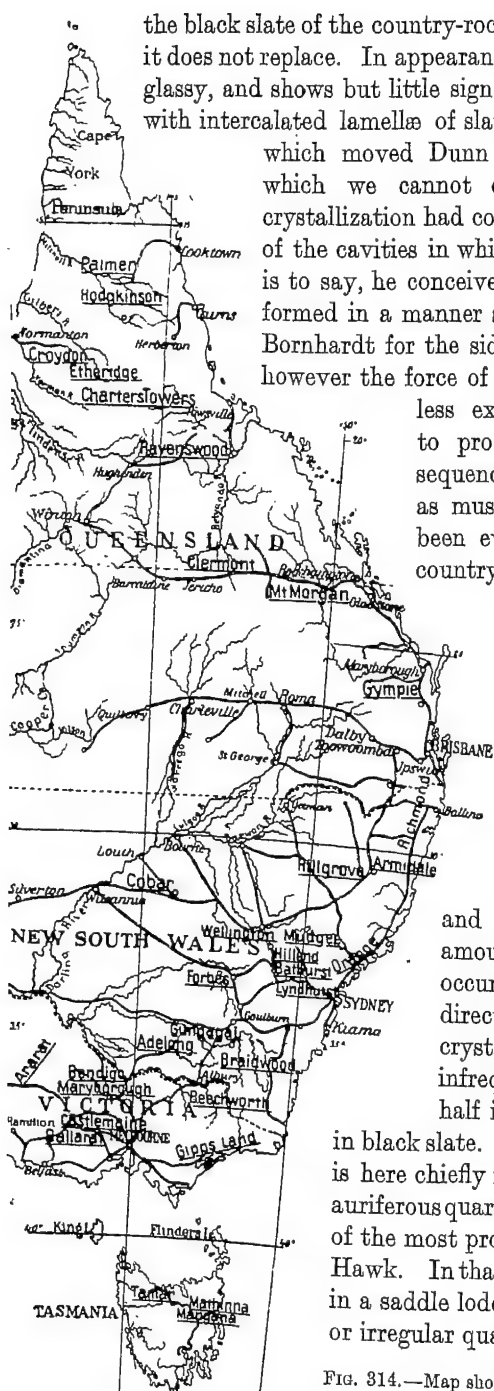
E. LIDGEY. 'Report on the Ballarat East Goldfield,' Spec. Rep. Dep. of Mines, Victoria, 1864.—W. B. WITHERS. History of Ballarat, 1870.—MURRAY. Report on the Geology and Mineral Resources of Ballarat, 1874.—WOLFF. 'Das australische Gold, seine Lagerstätten und seine Associationen,' Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges., 1877, XXIX.—R. L. JACK. Report on the Geology and Mineral Resources of the District between Charters Towers

Goldfields and the Coast, 1879.—T. A. RICKARD. 'The Bendigo Goldfield,' I-III, Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., Oct. 1891, Oct. 1892, Aug. 1893.—E. F. PITTMANN. 'On the Geological Structure of the Wyalong Goldfields,' Record. Geol. Survey. N.S.W., 1894.—E. J. DUNN. 'Report on the Bendigo Goldfields,' Dep. of Mines. Melbourne, 1893.—BABU. 'Les Mines d'or de l'Australie,' Ann. d. Mines, 1896, IX. 315-395.—R. ALLEN. 'Report in Connection with the Underground Plans of the Ballarat West Mine,' Dep. of Mines, Vict., 1897.—SCHMEISSER and VOGELSANG. Die Goldfelder Australasiens. Berlin, 1897.—W. LINDGREN. 'Occurrence of Albite in the Bendigo Veins,' Econ. Geol. Vol. I., No. 2, 1905.—H. P. WOODWARD. 'The Auriferous Deposits and Mines of Menzies, North Calgoorlie Goldfield,' Geol. Survey, Bull. 22, Perth, 1906.—J. W. GREGORY. 'The Indicators of Ballarat,' The Mining Journal, Jan. 20, 1906; 'The Ballarat East Goldfield,' Mem. Geol. Survey, Victoria, No. 4, 1907.

In addition to the telluride gold deposits of Western Australia and the Tertiary goldfields of New Zealand there are in Australasia many important gold-quartz districts of greater geological age. In Western Australia, as a matter of fact, mining did not begin upon the telluride lodes but upon quartz lodes, though these were not of any great importance. Of greater significance are the occurrences in Victoria, Queensland, and New South Wales, the positions of which, under the names of the different goldfields, are indicated in Fig. 314. These have been studied more particularly by Woodward, Rickard, Dunn, Gregory, Schmeisser, and Lindgren.

In Victoria, the goldfields of Bendigo and Ballarat, Ararat, Maryborough, and Castlemaine, to the west, are particularly noteworthy, as are those of Beechworth and Gippsland, to the east. Among these the Bendigo district takes first place. The lodes there occur in a highly plicated Ordovician series of dark slates alternating with fine-grained sandstones, which series somewhat south of Bendigo is intruded by granite or quartz-monzonite. The deposits have the peculiar form of 'saddle reefs,' illustrated in Figs. 315 and 316. These are the fillings of bedded cavities which, as the strata became folded, were formed at the crests of the anticlines and to a less extent in the troughs of the synclines. They extend unbroken for many kilometres along the anticlinal axes, generally agreeing in strike and dip with the country-rock, and forming lode-like ore-bodies extending down the anticlinal limbs, such bodies being known as the saddle 'legs.' Ten and more of such saddle lodes have been found in one vertical plane. In the Bendigo district within a strip about 1400 m. wide three main series of such lodes are found running parallel and striking north. These, as indicated in Fig. 316, are known respectively as the New Chum, Garden Gully, and Hustler series. Besides these saddle lodes the slates contain leaders and more or less irregular ore-bodies which in part are of considerable dimension and more or less directly connected with the main lodes; these are locally termed 'spurs' and 'makes'; in the north of the district particularly they are very rich.

The auriferous quartz of the Bendigo district separates cleanly from



in black slate. Lindgren, whose description is here chiefly followed, found albite in the auriferous quartz of the South New Moon, one of the most productive mines around Eagle Hawk. In that mine the ore does not occur in a saddle lode but in the form of a spur or irregular quartz mass in the black slate.

FIG. 314.—Map showing the goldfields of Victoria.

the black slate of the country-rock which, practically speaking, it does not replace. In appearance it is milk-white and almost glassy, and shows but little sign of pressure. Quartz masses with intercalated lamellæ of slate are not infrequent, a fact

which moved Dunn to put forward the theory, which we cannot endorse, that the force of crystallization had contributed to the enlargement of the cavities in which the ore is now found, that is to say, he conceived these lodes to have been formed in a manner similar to that suggested by Bornhardt for the siderite lodes of Siegerland. If

however the force of crystallization, which doubtless exists, were powerful enough to produce such effects, the consequences of such colossal pressure as must be postulated, would have been evident first of all upon the country-rock directly in touch with the quartz.

Carbonates of lime, magnesia, and iron are sometimes mixed with the quartz, being often found along the walls. Chlorite in small bent, though definite crystals can also at times be observed.

The sulphides are limited almost exclusively to pyrite and arsenopyrite with a small amount of galena, these minerals occurring particularly in the slate directly adjacent to the quartz; crystals of pyrite indeed are not infrequently found embedded one-half in quartz and the other half

The gold in general is coarse-grained, and in massive, white, almost glassy quartz, may often be observed in large pieces.

With regard to the maintenance of gold content in depth, many of the mines are already more than 1000 m. deep; indeed the New Chum Railway mine in the year 1906 cut an apparently still payable saddle lode at a depth of almost 1400 metres. The limit of payability is put at 7 dwt., or about 10 grm. of gold per ton. Generally speaking, experience has shown that the ore above 2500 feet was considerably richer than that obtained below that depth.

Up to 1906 the district had altogether produced approximately 20·5 million oz. of gold, of which 6 millions were derived exclusively from primary ore, while the remaining 14·5 millions came partly from primary ore and partly from gravels. In the year 1904 the production amounted to 206,000 oz., and the average value of the ore was 10 dwt. or 15·5 grm. per ton.

In the Ballarat goldfield lying to the south of Bendigo, the country-rock consists of alternating layers,

from 2 inches to 1 foot in thickness, of slate and sandstone, the latter being in part quartzitic. All are fine-grained and free from conglomerate, ripple marks indicating that they are of shallow-water formation.

Lindgren called attention to the fact that in spite of their small thickness some of these layers could be followed for great distances, though in general, according to Gregory, petrographical change may be sudden. No fossils have yet been found. The beds were formerly described as Lower Silurian. According to Gregory however, in the eastern portion of the Ballarat plateau they are Lower Ordovician, while at Ballarat they must even be regarded as pre-Ordovician. They strike north-north-west and dip generally to the west, though as the result of comparatively

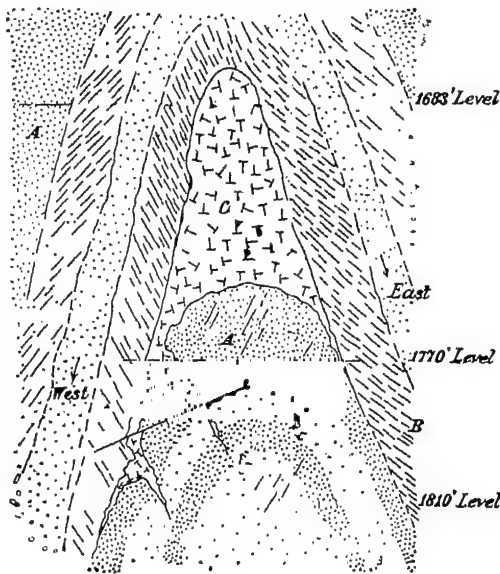


FIG. 315.—Section of an anticlinal lode or saddle reef in the New Chum Cons. mine. Schmeisser, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1898, p. 100.

A, sandstone; B, slaty sandstone with quartz stringers;  
C, quartz.

recent movement they now occur in steep anticlines and synclines. East of Ballarat granitic rocks appear, which have effected contact-metamorphism of the slates. Finally, the Carboniferous glacial deposits in the east of the plateau are noteworthy.

The gold-quartz lodes of the district may be divided into three groups, those respectively of Little Bendigo, Ballarat East, and Ballarat West, the general trend of these districts being approximately parallel, and north-south.

Little Bendigo, the most north-easterly district, embraces, over a length of two miles, several parallel lode-series, the more important of which are known as Monte Christo, Band of Hope, and Black Hill. At the last-

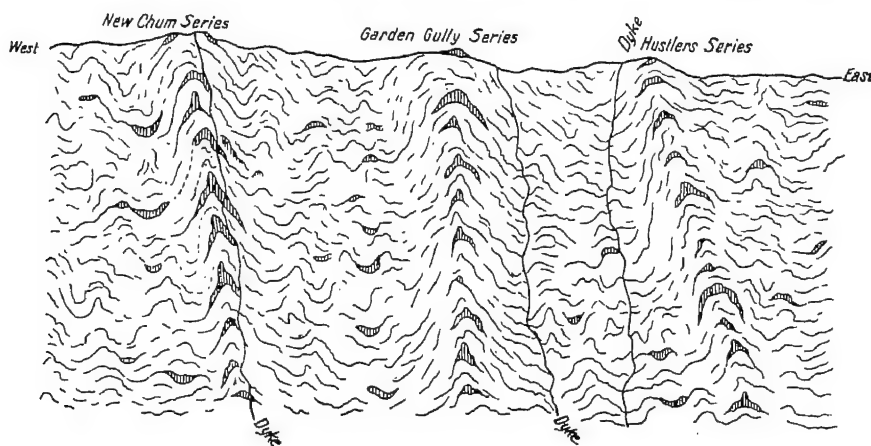


FIG. 316.—Diagrammatic section through the Bendigo goldfield. Rickard.

named locality the Ballarat East series begins, this extending some seven or eight miles southwards from Black Hill. About one mile to the west, the Ballarat West series extends over a length of three miles so disposed that the most northerly mines lie opposite the more important of the most southerly mines of the Ballarat East series.

The occurrences at Little Bendigo are cut off to the north by a large fault. The most important of these is the Monte Christo series, this series, as illustrated in Fig. 317, being confined between two parallel faults some 80 feet apart. The slate and sandstone layers within this space are traversed by a large number of flat quartz veins. Near the surface, where the gold was concentrated in well-defined shoots, these veins were rich; below 300 feet however they have often proved to be unpayable.

An important feature of the Ballarat district are the so-called 'indicators' which are definite slate layers capable of being followed for great distances. With the Monte Christo series for instance, in the Metropolitan mine, as illustrated in Fig. 317, a slate band known as the Jarvis indicator occurs in the middle of the so-called lode.

The Ballarat West goldfield is the most south-westerly of the district, where, the surface being covered by a basalt flow, the lodes do not outcrop. The auriferous quartz occurs in large irregular masses roughly lenticular in form, from both sides of which and from below, a large number of quartz leaders shoot out. The lodes of this district are arranged in two series known respectively as the Consols Lode and the Star Lode.

The Ballarat East goldfield is the most important of the district. In it those large nuggets were found which, reaching up to 90 kg. in weight, made this goldfield famous. The district contains in addition a large number of well-defined lodes or lenticular quartz masses, which in many of their features recall the celebrated quartz lodes of California. Here however the distribution of the gold is not so simple; instead of well-defined vertical lodes there are many narrow layers running approximately horizontally, and since much of the quartz is barren the work of mining is difficult. The distribution of the gold however is in some respects regular. Although the greater portion

of the quartz is barren it is traversed by richer bands and patches which always occur where the flat quartz layers or veins cross narrow vertical beds of a dark slate. Such slate beds are the indicators. The quartz veins where they cross such an indicator may be extremely rich, though eighteen inches away they may, practically speaking, contain no gold. The miners therefore follow these indicators, whereby they arrive more easily at the richer patches and save themselves much useless development work. It is interesting to observe that north of this district and of Black Hill many other quartz lodes occur, but without gold.

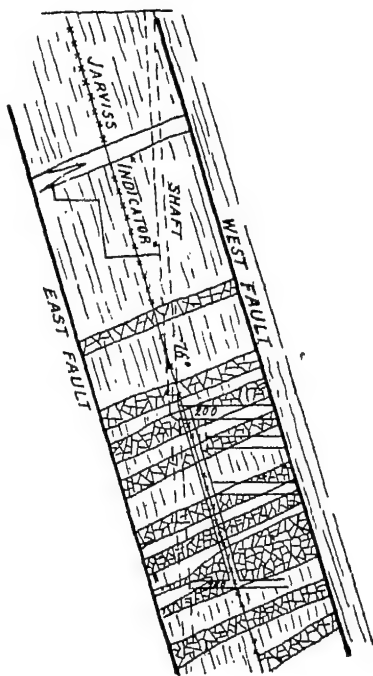


FIG. 317.—Section of the Metropolitan lode, Monte Christo series, showing the Jarvis Indicator. Gregory.

Among the mines of this goldfield deserving of mention are the Black

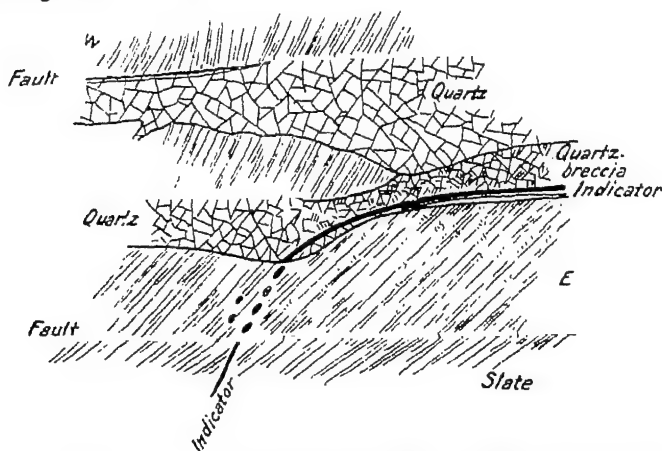


FIG. 318.—Course of the Britannia United Indicator on the 987-foot level of the Victoria United mine. Gregory.

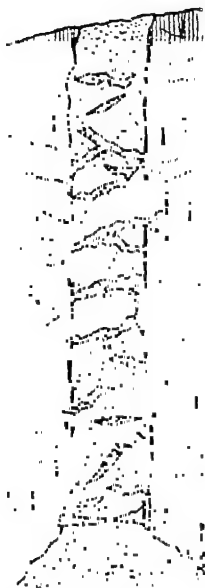


FIG. 319.—Section across a ladder lode at Waverley, Victoria. Phillips and Louis.

Hill, the oldest gold-quartz mine in Victoria; the Victoria United; and the East Change. The gold won in the Ballarat East district is very pure, being about 995.5 fine.

The 'ladder lodes' of Waverley, Victoria, illustrated in Fig. 319, are of similar character to the deposits at Beresowsk. With them the quartz occurs in an almost vertical, partly decomposed greenstone dyke, which can be followed with almost parallel walls for roughly two and a half miles in the same direction as the slates in which it is found. This decomposed eruptive rock is traversed by horizontal leaders, the thickness of which varies from one inch to two feet. According to Louis some of these leaders yielded ore of exceptional richness, while the average content was always high. These dykes, which are known as 'mullocky reefs,' pass, at a depth of 70–200 feet, into undecomposed crystalline rocks where their exploitation is considerably more difficult. It is stated that the decomposed greenstone itself possesses a low gold content. The metal won from these lodes is remarkable for its great purity.



## THE GOLD DEPOSITS OF BRAZIL

## LITERATURE

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The auriferous belt of Brazil lies in greater part along the range of hills, 1000-1713 m. in height, known as the Serra de Espinhaco, which traverses the central portion of Minas Geraes and forms the watershed between the rivers Doce and São Francisco. The boundaries of this goldfield may be taken to pass through the towns of Santa Lucia to the north, Brumado to the south, Ponte Nova to the east, and Paraopeba to the west.

The geological age of the rocks composing this district has not yet been determined. According to Derby they are Cambrian and Lower Silurian, the sequence in the Ouro Preto district from top to bottom being: upper mica-schist; limestone; itabirite with jacutinga, a sandy micaceous iron ore; clay-slate; schistose quartzite; mica- and talc-schists; and finally, gneiss and granite. As elsewhere, mining here first commenced upon the gravel-deposits. According to whether they are at the present river-level or upon higher terraces, the Brazilian miner divides these deposits into *veias*, *taboleiros*, and *grupiarias*. The lodes may be divided into: (a) bedded lodes, which here are wrongly termed contact lodes; (b) lodes in slate and quartzite; and (c) the so-called jacutinga lines in itabirite.

The bedded lodes, almost coinciding in strike and dip with the bedding, extend along the Ouro Preto range in a strip beginning roughly 2 km. west of the town of that name and reaching to a point about 4 km. north-east of Marianna. In part they are probably of eruptive origin. The principal mines exploiting such lodes are the Passagem and the Morro Santa Anna, which work lenticular quartz bodies 1-15 m. in width, 10-100 m. in length, and generally of greater extent in depth. The occurrence at Passagem near Ouro Preto, which may be regarded as typical of this class of deposit, is described later in greater detail.

The so-called cross lodes in slate are much more numerous. These consist of lenticular quartz bodies with dimensions subject to great

variation; upon one of the largest the celebrated Morro Velho mine is working; other occurrences are limited to narrow leaders of auriferous

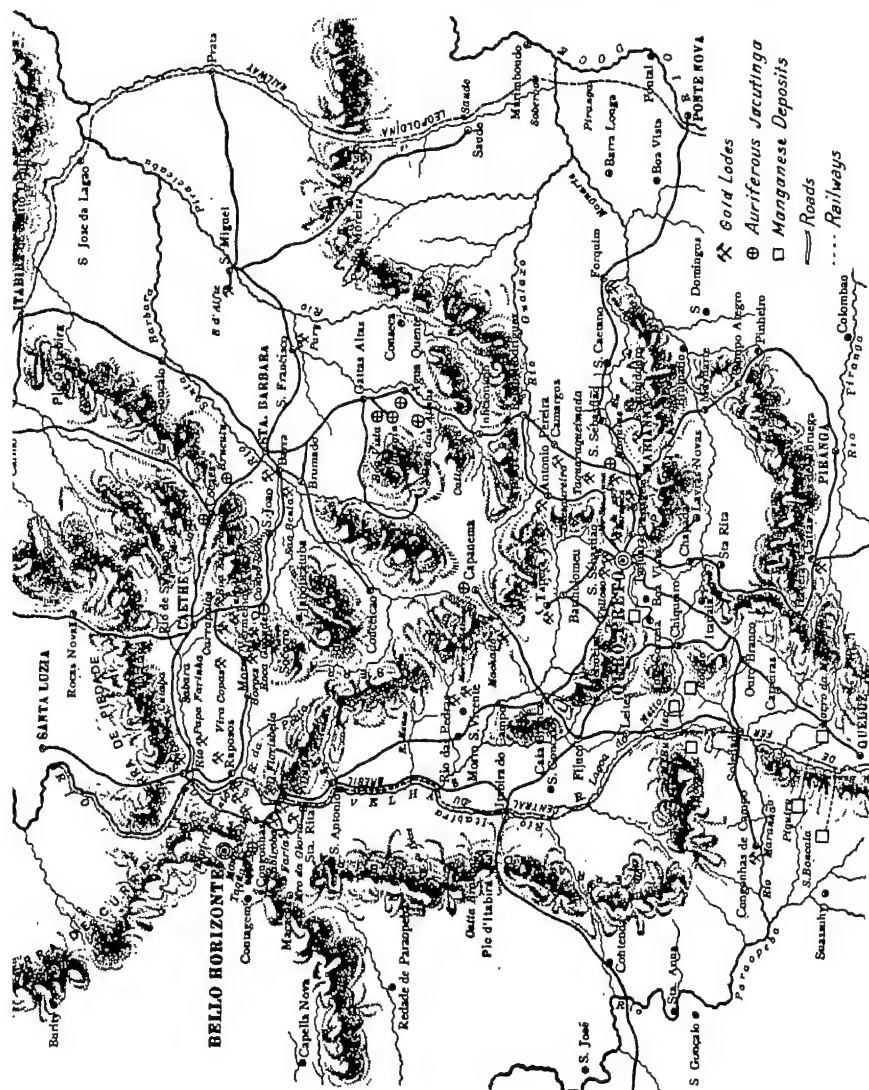


FIG. 320.—Geological map of the Ouro Preto gold district, Brazil.  
*Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. Vol. XXXIII, 1903, p. 407.*

quartz. These lodes likewise follow the bedding. The quartz is often accompanied by arsenopyrite, pyrrhotite, and limonite, and more seldom, as for instance at Morro Velho, by carbonates. Occasionally, large amounts of metallic gold are found in small veins, though such rich zones are

generally of little extent. As far as present experience goes the gold content remains fairly constant in depth.<sup>1</sup>

The lodes in quartzite are not important nor are any at present being worked. The last mine of this class which continued to work, Catta Branco by name, shut down more than fifty years ago.

The so-called jacutinga lines in itabirite are usually not more than one centimetre in thickness. In these the gold is coarse-grained. In the Gongo-Socco mine, once famous, and in others of less importance,

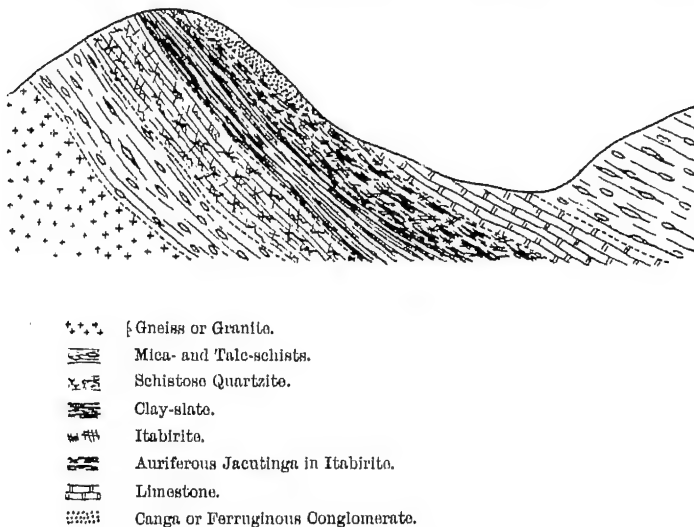


FIG. 321.—Section through the Gongo Socco mountains.

masses of gold mixed with jacutinga have been found weighing several kilograms. Numerous traces of previous mining operations upon auriferous jacutinga in itabirite are encountered between Ouro Preto and Marianna.

### THE PASSAGEM DEPOSIT

Seven kilometres to the east of Ouro Preto, the principal town of the Province Minas Geraes, one of the most productive gold mines of Brazil exploits the bedded quartz lode of Passagem, which, striking north-east and dipping 18°–20° to the south-east, is roughly conformable with the country-rock. The more detailed circumstances of its bedding may be gathered from Fig. 322. Quartziferous mica-schist forms the lowest member of the rock-sequence present, and this in contact with the lode

<sup>1</sup> Scott, 1903.

passes over to the so-called contact quartzite; then comes the quartz lode which has a cryptocrystalline schist for its immediate hanging-wall; while above this again lies the itabirite, with its zone of decomposition and lateritization known locally as *Canga*.

Of these rocks, the so-called contact quartzite and the quartz lode claim special attention. The first, according to Hussak, is greenish-white in colour and distinctly schistose in structure, the mica being sericitic. It is most closely connected with the quartz lode, in which it forms lenticular masses which in some places take up the whole lode width, while in other places they are completely absent.

The hanging-wall rock, the so-called cryptocrystalline schist, consisting of thin layers of minute aggregates of quartz grains, these layers

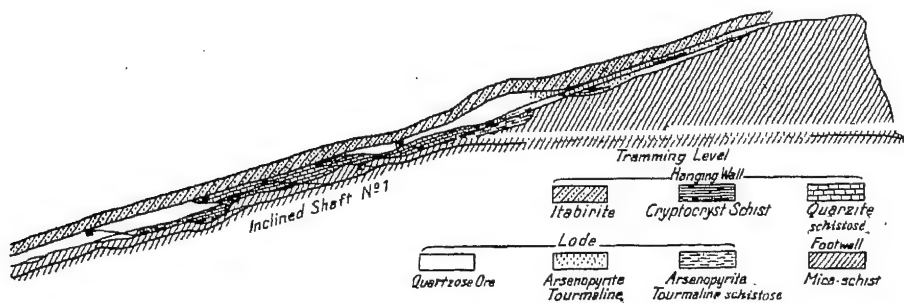


FIG. 322.—Section of a bedded quartz lode at Passagem near Ouro Preto.  
M. P. Ferrand, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1898, p. 346.

being separated by narrow beds of a straw-yellow to light-brown amphibole often resembling asbestos, is very thinly bedded. The quartz layers contain abundant metalliferous particles, and, though seldom, extremely finely divided gold.

This lode, regular in dip, deviating but little in strike though varying considerably in thickness, consists of an auriferous pyritic quartz, or in greater detail, of a milk-white quartz with some tourmaline and arsenopyrite, and to a less extent some pyrite and pyrrhotite. What here is termed a lode is more probably a series of lenses sometimes constricted, sometimes expanded, at times auriferous, and at times barren. It is generally the thicker lenses which consist of schistose quartzite and barren milk-white quartz. Unlike the hanging-wall schist, the quartzite, which as stated above forms the foot-wall, contains no precious metal. The richest portions are those containing fine crystals of arsenopyrite and black tourmaline. The gold content may then be 150–200 grm. per ton, but when more quartz is present it is lower. Clean quartz from the lode contains but 2–3 grm. per ton, though when bands of tourmaline render this quartz

histose the gold content rises to 10–15 grm. The pyrite also, contrary to usual experience, only carries gold when it is intergrown with tourmaline or when it has started to decompose; in such cases a content of 20–30 grm. gold per ton is often found. With the gold some bismuth and silver are associated. Such lode-filling has been proved for 700 m. along the strike, and 450 m. in depth. Concerning genesis, Hussak, as the result of observation on the spot and of microscopic investigation, has come to the conclusion that the lode is of intrusive origin, being in fact an ultra-acid granitic apogysis. According to him it broke through the quartz-schist which it fractured and in part absorbed, forming a distinct contact zone on both sides. It is younger than the rocks now found in its hanging-wall.

During the period 1864–1873 from 104,000 tons of ore treated 753.5 kg. gold were recovered; and during 1884–1893 from 257,626 tons 2375 kg. In addition about 36 kg. of metallic bismuth per year was separated from the gold.

#### THE RAPOSOS DEPOSIT

According to Berg,<sup>1</sup> although of no great economic importance this deposit, situated in lat. 19° 58' S. and long. 43° 49' W., represents geologically a remarkable formation, in that pyritic sulphides are concentrated in the form of chimneys pitching at an angle into depth. The country around consists chiefly of pre-Cambrian clay-slate and phyllite, which are occasionally represented by chlorite- and sericite-schist, and which alternate with itabirite rich in magnetite, and with different leucareous quartzites; these schistose north-north-east striking rocks, dipping at an angle of 35° to the east, are pierced by two bosses of diabase. The geological structure is therefore quite similar to that of the important gold deposit of Morro Velho next described.

The rocks in detail are in different places highly distorted, compressed, and elongated. It is particularly where elongation is evident that the ore occurs in regularly arranged chimneys. These are generally 6 m., but may occasionally be as much as 12 m. in diameter, though on the other hand they may be as little as 20 cm.; a chimney of the latter dimension is illustrated in Fig. 323. They lie regularly arranged in a plane of the schist, though not always following the line of the dip. Surrounded by schist, the substance of the chimney consists of quartz and pyrite.

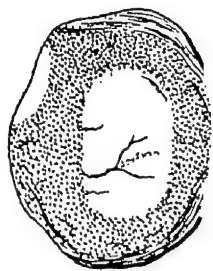


FIG. 323. — Section through a gold ore-chimney 20 cm. diameter, at Raposos, Brazil. Berg, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 82.

<sup>1</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902.

The middle is occupied by minutely though distinctly brecciated quartz in which some individual pyrite stringers and veinlets are found, while pyrite and quartz, intimately mixed, occur more particularly around the periphery. Arsenopyrite remarkable for a high gold content is not infrequently found with the pyrite. Chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, and sphalerite are very subordinate, while magnetite, presumably remaining from the original itabirite, is common. Not infrequently the chimneys show a stemmed structure, each then consisting of a number of parallel and closely-lying smaller individuals. Berg explains this formation by assuming that the crystalline schist under lateral pressure experienced an elongation producing a columnar structure,<sup>1</sup> along which later, and probably in connection with the diabase, the gold solutions arose. The irregularity of the rock and the repeated change from brittle quartzite and itabirite to elastic flexible schist, prevented the formation of regular lode fissures. The solutions had therefore to find their way between the crushed quartzite and the itabirite, the calcite and magnetite constituents of which latter favoured the metasomatic replacement of the country-rock, with the result that where under conditions of undisturbed bedding epigenetic bedded deposits would have arisen, epigenetic ore-chimneys became formed.

#### THE MORRO VELHO DEPOSIT

At Morro Velho a lode having the form of a column with an elongated oval cross-section, is worked. In this district gneiss and granite form the basement upon which mica-schist, calc-schist, schistose quartzite, clay-slate, itabirite, and younger mica-schist, have been laid. In so far as the gold is concerned, the grey pre-Cambrian schists and phyllites intercalated with itabirite and quartzite but below the main zone of itabirite, are of importance. According to Derby the lode traverses a bed of calc-schist which, containing mica and chlorite, may in general be described as a mica-schist. It is interesting to note that though it contains calcium carbonate in large amount, the carbonates of magnesia and iron are almost completely absent. The lode strikes east-west and has been worked for a length of roughly 200 metres. It is from 1 to 35 m. in width and has been followed for an inclined depth of about 1800 metres. This mine is one of the deepest in the world, having as far back as 1901 already reached a vertical depth of 1030 metres.

The filling consists of a fine-grained mixture of siderite, dolomite, calcite, quartz, and to all appearances also of albite. The large amount of carbonates in the lode-filling is remarkable. Typical vein-quartz, on the other hand, appears in but subordinate amount and only in some

<sup>1</sup> *Griffelstruktur.*

aces. Among sulphides, pyrrhotite, pyrite, arsenopyrite, and chalcocite are found, while sphalerite and galena are accounted rarities. According to Wilder the ore contains 30-40 per cent of sulphides, 30-40 per cent of carbonates, and 20-30 per cent of quartz. Pyrrhotite is the prevailing sulphide, and siderite the prevailing carbonate. An average sample, representative of the ore mined for several months, gave 28.5 per cent of pyrrhotite, to which, according to Wilder, may be added 5.04 per cent arsenopyrite, 2.5 per cent pyrite, and 0.66 per cent of chalcocite, making altogether 36.7 per cent of sulphides.

A small amount of smoky quartz finely distributed throughout, considered favourable to the gold content. Should on the other hand the quartz resemble typical vein-quartz, or pyrite be abundant, the gold content appears to diminish. This deposit therefore, as is also the case with other Brazilian deposits, deviates from the normal type of old-quartz lode. With increasing arsenopyrite the gold content of the whole mass increases.

At the east end of the lode and in contact with the country-rock, raphite occurs. Beautiful albite crystals are also not infrequent though generally they are only of small dimension. Other features of interest are the aplitic texture of the ore and the occurrence of fissure water in which, according to analyses, almost all the elements found in the lode are contained. Finally, the absence of typical eruptive rocks from the vicinity is noteworthy.

In the year 1901 this mine produced 152,238 tons of ore, of which 40,855 tons were treated yielding 99,197 oz. or 3085 kg. of fine gold. On an average the ore contains about 0.7 oz. per ton.

### THE GONGO SOCCO DEPOSIT

This deposit belongs to the so-called jacutinga lines. Its geological position is illustrated in Fig. 321.

Gneiss and granite again form the basement upon which mica-schist, calc-schist, schistose quartzite, and clay-slate lie one after the other. The last of these rocks forms the immediate foot-wall of the itabirite, the hanging-wall of which is limestone. All these rocks dip approximately 45° to the south. The Gongo Socco mine is situated on the central railway of Brazil, at a point roughly 30 km. east of Sabara and 1000 m. above the sea. The auriferous jacutinga is at most 15 cm. thick. In the centre of its thicker portions it contains pieces of pure gold in the form of irregular aggregates plates and wires, such aggregates weighing from a few grammes up to several kilogrammes. Two-thirds of the gold won is

found in this form, and but one-third finely distributed throughout the substance of the itabirite itself. Captain Lyon in 1830 reported that a single native recovered in one day specimens of gold ore which yielded 10 kg. of metal. Other remarkable finds made in the years 1829 and 1830 are reported to have yielded between 47.6 and 193 kg. of gold. The whole itabirite formation indeed carries gold though seldom in such amount as to make it worth working. The composition of jacutinga, which in reality is ferruginous itabirite, may be gathered from the following analyses :

$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	.	.	.	97.00	per cent
$\text{SiO}_2$	.	.	.	1.60	„
$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	.	.	.	1.10	„
$\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$	.	.	.	0.60	„

From 1826 to 1839 about 11,000 kg. of gold were obtained from this mine. Unfortunately in 1840 the water in the deepest level could no longer be mastered, and in 1856 when a depth of 140 m. had been reached operations were discontinued. The highest output of any year was made in 1832 when 1578 kg. were obtained ; in 1856 when work was stopped the output had dropped to 29 kilogrammes.

*Gold Production of Minas Geraes.*—The development of gold mining in this district may be gathered from the following figures: In 1896, 1963 kg. were produced ; 1897, 2071 kg. ; 1898, 3267 kg. ; 1899, 3974 kg. ; 1900, 4811 kg. ; and in 1901 about 5000 kg. Since then the production has fallen considerably, Brazil in 1910 only producing 2972 kg. The total output from 1820 to 1901 amounted to 85 million sterling.

## GOLD DEPOSITS AT SEKENKE IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

### LITERATURE

Reports of J. KUNTZ, SCHLENZIG, and F. SCHEFFLER in manuscript.—K. SCHMEISSER. Die nutzbaren Lagerstätten der deutschen Kolonien. Lecture. Berlin, 1910.

The village of Sekenke is situated about 10 km. west of the steep descent from the Iramba plateau, upon a flat undulation about 15 km. long and 3 km. wide, between the Wembere and Chironda streams. Here many lenticular lodes occur in the contact belts around different eruptives, mostly of dioritic nature. These rocks, as well as the lodes they contain, strike north-south and dip at a high angle. Of fifteen such lenses yet known five are payable, three of these constituting the Dernburg lode. The length of these lenses varies between 50 and 300 m., while the thickness in places reaches 3 metres. For every metre of depth they yield something more than 1000 tons of ore, so that down to a depth of 27 m. about 30,000 tons are available. The secondary variations of metal content in depth are very well



veloped. The cementation zone comes right to surface, samples from it occasionally assaying several thousand grammes of gold per ton; the average say of sixty samples, after rejecting abnormally high results, gave 47 m. per ton. The average content in shaft No. 1 of the Dernburg lode, down to 26 m. was 60 grm. Since, according to Kuntz, rich ore still continues below water-level, this occurrence at Sekenke presents a case where the cementation zone has by subsidence been depressed below the ground-water level. This phenomenon in our opinion is probably associated with the formation of the steep drop from the Iramba plateau.

East of this occurrence gold lodes occur upon the Iramba plateau itself, where formerly extensive work was carried on. The rocks there are slates, probably Palæozoic, these being intruded by granitic rocks chiefly, but also by diorite. The lode-outcrops on account of their quartzose character stand out boldly upon the ground, and in this case also the cementation zone comes to the surface. Samples of the ore from this zone occasionally assay as high as 4 kg. of gold per ton. Development work however has shown that at but little depth the primary zone commences. In this the quartz is impregnated with pyrrhotite and pyrite, and the gold content richly decreases till the ore becomes no longer payable. This occurrence of pyrrhotite is particularly interesting.

## THE GOLD LODES OF SOUTH AFRICA

### LITERATURE

F. W. VORT. 'Übersicht über die nutzbaren Lagerstätten Südafrikas,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1908, p. 209.—P. R. KRAUSE. 'Über den Einfluss der Eruptivgesteine auf die Zuführung der Witwatersrand-Konglomerate und der im dolomitischen Kalkgebirge von Jynenburg auftretenden Quarzflöze nebst einer kurzen Schilderung der Grubenbezirke von Pilgrimarest und De Kaap,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897, p. 12.—SAWYER. *The Goldfields of Mashonaland*. London, 1894.—K. SCHMIDT. *Die nutzbaren Bodenschätze der deutschen Schutzgebiete*. Berlin, 1902.

Among the old gold lodes, those of the De Kaap goldfield in the Transvaal and those of Rhodesia claim especial attention. The crystalline schists of South Africa lying upon the fundamental gneiss constitute the principal horizon of these quartz lodes, which occur of all dimensions, from microscopically small quartz veins involving the whole bedded formation in which they occur, to the most extensive of ordinary lodes. Generally only the smaller veins are auriferous, the larger lodes consisting more often of barren quartz. The ore-bodies are usually lenticular and are found sometimes along one plane, sometimes along another; they are also often associated with dyke-like occurrences of eruptive rock. The minerals include pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite at the Sheba Queen mine, stibnite at La France, arsenopyrite, and other sulphides. The

distribution of these is not uniform, they are more usually found concentrated in ore-shoots. It is characteristic of all these deposits that they are generally only payable in the cementation zone.

The most important deposits are those of the Barberton district, these constituting the De Kaap goldfield. According to Krause and Voit, in this goldfield numerous lodes traverse the steep crystalline schists which lie upon the granite. Some of these are ordinary cross lodes, while others are bedded. More generally they strike with the schists in which, accompanied by diabasic rocks, they occur, the lodes often being especially rich where they intersect these rocks. Of the many mines working in this district the Sheba Queen is the most interesting. In this mine talc- and chlorite-schists overlaid by quartzite are traversed by such a number of small quartz veins that the whole complex, to a thickness of about 100 feet, can be worked. This is therefore a deposit closely related to the composite lodes as defined by Krusch. At Pigg's Peak, where quartzite is traversed by numerous veins, and at Zwartkopje, the circumstances are similar. At this latter place the gold is contained in a ferruginous banded silica-schist, at its contact with a grass-green schist which presumably represents a deformed eruptive rock. The occurrences at Steynsdorp to the south of Barberton are noteworthy in that the gold, in addition to being associated with silica-schist, is also connected with itabirite. It occurs sometimes intimately associated with stibnite, and sometimes irregularly distributed in native condition through snow-white quartz containing no sulphides. Analogous lodes are found in the Vryheid district of Zululand and elsewhere. The economic importance of all these occurrences is but small.

In Rhodesia, the gold lodes generally occur in the neighbourhood of diabase, in east-west striking crystalline schists forming larger and smaller patches in granite. Since these deposits are generally poor immediately at the surface and only become payable at a little depth therefrom, it would appear as though the partly impoverished oxidation zone were here still represented; in addition, both in Mashonaland and Matabeleland the cementation zone appears to continue to greater depths than in the Transvaal. Two types of lode may be distinguished, firstly, those which reach 1 m. in width and form ore-shoots 100–140 m. long; and secondly, large impregnation zones with fairly constant content for lengths of almost 1000 metres. The deposit worked at the Wanderers mine in the Selukwe district has for instance a width of 40–60 feet. The Giant mine works an auriferous itabirite in which the auriferous zones consist of lenticular bodies, some of which are connected by narrow cross veins.

The lodes in the Malmani dolomite occur in a substantially younger country-rock. These at the surface often have a width of 10 m., a width which in depth invariably contracts, suggesting that it is largely

to oxidation-metasomatism. Although these deposits are often of considerable extent at the surface, they generally have but a low gold content. The best known is the Mitchell lode. The deposits of this class in the Tlokweng district, described later, are more important. The occurrence of copper with the gold connects those deposits with the auriferous copper deposits, while the pronounced replacement phenomena in the limestone, on the other hand, are indicative of metasomatic processes.

## GOLD-COPPER DEPOSITS IN GERMAN WEST AFRICA

### LITERATURE

G. GÜRICH. *Deutsche-Südwestafrika, Reisebilder aus den Jahren 1888 und 1889.*—J. STROMER V. REICHENBACH. *Die Geologie der deutschen Schutzgebiete in Afrika.* Munich, 1896.—K. SCHMEISSER. 'Die nutzbaren Bodenschätze der deutschen Schutzgebiete,' Lecture, Colonial Congress. Berlin, 1902.—F. W. VOIT. 'Beiträge zur Geologie der Kupfererzgebiete in Deutsch-Südwestafrika,' *Jahrb. d. k. pr. geol. Landesanst.*, 1904.—L. MACCO. *Die Aussichten des Bergbaues in Deutsch-Südwestafrika*, Berlin, Dietrich Reimer, 1907.

Gold-copper ore is won in the Pot mine on the Swakop river, where the deposit, as described by Voit, is a garnetiferous layer intercalated in gneiss and sparsely impregnated with copper, such impregnation having proceeded from a fissure.

Schmeisser mentions the copper deposit at Hussab also as being auriferous. There, in a large patch of gneiss lying upon granite, an extensive quartzite-schist bed is intercalated, in the hanging-wall of which, zones of mica-schist impregnated with copper ore occur. It must be assumed in this case also that the impregnation proceeded from fissures.

More important are the auriferous copper deposits of the Rehoboth district, which were carefully investigated by the Eichmeyer expedition. The most promising of these occur on the Groot and Klein Spitzkop, some 20 km. to the north-west of Rehoboth. There, highly contorted mica-schists are traversed by a large number of linked veins which in general strike east-west and dip to the north. At the top of these two hills the veins form a regular maze in which five only are sufficiently definite to be followed. The copper ore occurs sometimes as malachite impregnations, sometimes as chalcocite, bornite; chrysocolla, decomposed chalcopyrite, or in fact all those ores characteristic of the oxidation and cementation zones. From the occurrence of remnants of pyrite the conclusion may be drawn that the primary ore consists chiefly of pyrite. The gold occurs either as free gold or associated with pyrite. The wedges of country-rock occurring between converging veins have also assayed 3-4 grm. of gold and 20 grm. of silver per ton. Quartz and calcite are the principal gangue-minerals, these being sometimes accompanied by

siderite. The vein-quartz is compact, resinous in lustre, and milk-white to red in colour, but strangely enough it never carries finely divided gold, this metal always occurring in grains, up to 4 grm. in weight. In contradistinction to this, the friable and dull quartz and the whitish-brown

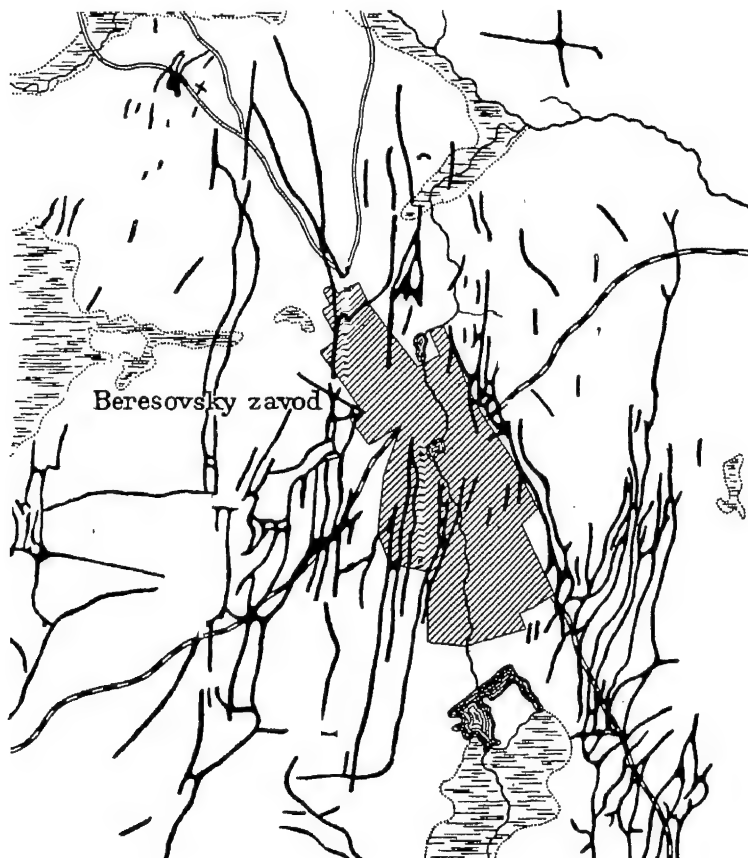


FIG. 324.—Beresite dykes at Beresowsk. Karpinsky, 'Guide des excursions du VII. Congrès Géolog. Intern. 1897,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1898, p. 23.

quartz carry gold so fine as to be undiscernible by the naked eye; analyses give 3.2 grm. of gold together with 28 grm. of silver per ton. In spite of the association of the gold with chalcocite, no gold could be detected in such pieces of chalcocite as were freed from lode material, though such contained approximately 76 per cent of copper. This must be taken as evidence that the chalcocite was subsequently cemented by gold.

## GOLD LODES OF BERESOWSK IN THE URALS

## LITERATURE

F. POŠEPNÝ. 'Die Golddistrikte von Berezov und Mias im Ural,' Arch. f. prakt. Geol., 1895, p. 490.—A. KARPINSKY. Guide des excursions du VII. Congrès Géolog. Intern., 1897, V. p. 42.—R. BECK. 'Die Exkursion des VII. Internationalen Geologenkongresses nach dem Ural,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1898, p. 16.

The geological position of these deposits is very interesting. The district consists of dynamo-metamorphosed talcose, chloritic, and phyllitic chists, which at the surface are decomposed to a reddish mass. These, as illustrated in Fig. 324, are traversed by numerous dykes of a microgranite known as beresite, which dykes, 2 to 14 m. wide, strike north-south and dip vertically; they likewise are decomposed to a considerable depth. The primary deposits are associated with extensive gravel-deposits which often lie below a peat covering, this being used for fuel. The gold veins run at right angles to the beresite dykes, within which they are, practically speaking, confined, though as illustrated in Fig. 325, they often continue a short length in the country-rock beyond. These veins are usually but a few centimetres in thickness though exceptionally they may be more than one metre. In their occurrence they greatly resemble the ladder lodes of Australia, illustrated in Fig. 319. The lode-filling consists of auriferous quartz, the gold being partly free and partly associated with pyrite, with which latter lead- and copper sulphides sometimes occur. Karpinsky states that the gold content varies between 2.5 and 30 grm. per ton, with an average of probably 13 grm., though in places it may reach as much as 250 grammes. In connection with the question of the genesis of these deposits it is significant that the neighbouring Schartasch granite is stated to contain up to 1 grm. of gold per ton, though this rock, unlike the beresite, is quite undecomposed. The decomposition of the beresite, on the other hand, is so advanced that analyses permit only doubtful comparisons. If however this granite contain primary gold, then the beresite dykes, which represent later pulsations from the same parent magma, must also originally have contained primary gold, which quite conceivably became concentrated in the contraction fissures which opened as the rock cooled.

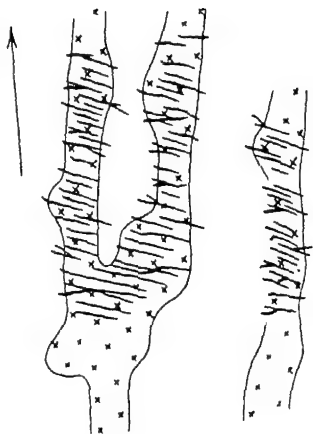


FIG. 325. — Diagrammatic representation of the gold lodes at Beresowsk. Beck.

## THE HOHE TAUERN IN THE EASTERN ALPS

## LITERATURE

B. COTTA. *Geologische Briefe aus den Alpen*, Leipzig, 1850, p. 146.—A. v. GRODDECK. *Die Lehre v. d. Lagerstätten der Erze*, Leipzig, 1879, p. 206.—F. POŠEPNÝ. *Arch. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1880, Vol. I. p. 487.—M. VACEK. *Verhandl. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst.*, 1893. 'Die Untersuchung des Bergbauterrains in den Hohen Tauern,' Commission's Report, published by the Minister of Agriculture, Vienna, 1895. 'Das Bergbauterrain in den Hohen Tauern,' *Jahrb. des naturhistor. Landesmuseums von Kärnten*, 1897, Part 24.—P. KRUSCH. 'Die Goldlagerstätten in den Hohen Tauern,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897, p. 77.

According to Pošepný, gold mining in the Hohe Tauern must be accounted as belonging to the oldest mining in Europe. The district traversed by the lodes contains two large gneiss massives known respectively as the Ankogel and the Hochnarr. Both of these form gentle elevations, and to the north and south both are overlaid by crystalline schists, including mica-schist, calc-mica-schist, limestone, phyllite-schist; and chlorite-schist. The beds are horizontal or but flatly inclined, and are faulted along north-south fissures. The area lying between the two massives and consisting likewise of gneiss and mica-schist, is, according to Pošepný, a syncline enclosing younger rocks. More recent investigations by Geyer and Vacek of the Geological Survey are however available. According to the latter, the schistose mantle consisting of members of different age overlays the central gneiss. This gneiss in its upper portion merges into hornblende-gneiss, upon which lie sericitic schist and quartzite, these in turn being overlaid by the upper hornblende-gneiss.

In this area of crystalline schist, lodes and bedded deposits are found. Cotta and Pošepný considered the lode-like deposits to be true lodes. They are filled with quartz and other gangue and with fragments of country-rock, while in addition to free gold they contain auriferous and argentiferous sulphides. According to Cotta the Tauern lodes are equivalent to the silver-quartz lodes of Freiberg. Pošepný considered them as belonging to the sulphide lead-zinc group of Breithaupt, though at the same time, in their quartz and stibnite content, resembling the silver-quartz lodes. Finally, v. Groddeck regarded the Tauern lodes as belonging to his very comprehensive Australian-Californian type.

Cotta particularly remarked that these lodes, like the Freiberg silver lodes, become poorer or even barren when leaving the gneiss and entering the mica-schist. In the Sieglitz, the gold content in one case increased considerably as the mica-schist was approached, though in that rock itself it ceased. In the Rauris also, enrichment in the neighbourhood of rocks not suited to the formation of fissures has been noticed, and Reissacher mentions that on the Goldberg accumulations of precious metal occur in gneiss near a black slate, while in the slate itself the lode

inches to a barren fissure. Alberti on that hill counted twenty-six lodes striking north-east and in general dipping south-east. For the principal complex of mines at this place Pošepný formulated the following fissure-systems: the Herrnstolln or Fröberling system, the Habersberg fissure, the Haberland and Goldberg system, and the Kirchgang and Bodner fissures. Within the indistinctly bedded gneiss certain schistose beds occur, which, striking towards the position of the sun at nine o'clock, are known as 'nines.' These have an influence upon the gold lodes, in that these latter only maintain a regular strike in the gneiss between these beds, but not within the beds themselves, where their course is indefinite.

The change in the lode-filling on the north side of the Hohe Tauern is interesting. The Sieglitz-Pockhart-Erwies lode-series, which may be followed for about 6400 m., carries, so long as it is in gneiss, decomposed country-rock with quartz, dolomite, arsenopyrite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, argentite, and some light coloured gold. In the limestone overlying the gneiss, on the other hand, the width of the lode, otherwise but small, increases to 20-60 m., and the lode then contains ankerite, siderite, galena, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, and zinc oxidized ore. Gold however is absent, and only occurs again when the gneiss is re-entered. On the Silberpfennig the lodes as soon as they penetrate calc-mica-schist carry pyrite, siderite, and galena, but no longer any gold.

On the south slope of the Hohe Tauern, pyrite deposits occur in the schists above the gneiss, those of Grossfragant at Waschgang and those in the Gössnitz being the best known.

The gold content of the Hohe Tauern lodes is sometimes considerable, and in places as much as 500 grm. or more per ton. A separation of the data available into such as were derived from the secondary and primary zones respectively, can unfortunately no longer be made. On the Rathausberg, in the first half of the seventeenth century an average of 31.7 grm. of gold was maintained, and in the second half 36 grm.; in the first half of the eighteenth century 22.1 grm., and in the second half 20.5 grm.; in the first half of the nineteenth century 12.6 grm.; or in general 22.7 grm. of gold bullion per ton. Of the Rauris the following figures of content are given: in the second half of the seventeenth century 46.6 grm.; in the first half of the eighteenth century 33.2 and 26.9 grm.; in the second half 20.0 grm. and 16.0 grm.; and in the first half of the nineteenth century 37 grm. and 30.0 grammes. According to Pošepný a general average of 25.5 grm. may be assumed.

New development work is now proceeding upon the Sieglitz lode near Böckstein. In October 1910 Krusch was able to investigate the deposit in the deep winze from the Georg adit. There the well-defined simple lode in the crystalline schists strikes north-north-east

and dips comparatively steeply east-south-east. In places, as the result of repeated re-opening of the fissure, false walls are found. From the later fissures an intense impregnation proceeded, which not only involved the old lode material but also the formerly barren country-rock, and this latter to such an extent that much of it is now payable. The width of the lode varies between 70 cm. and 2 metres. The filling consists of quartz and of rock fragments which in places are greatly silicified and almost invariably impregnated with ore. Of the sulphides, arsenopyrite and pyrite are particularly characteristic. While the latter occurs chiefly impregnated and rarely in good crystals, the arsenopyrite is not only found in the impregnated material but also in a continuous streak, which after hugging the hanging-wall, jumps the central portion of the lode to continue along the foot-wall. This streak is a younger formation in a pre-existing quartz-pyrite lode either free from, or containing but very little arsenopyrite. Whether the present gold content belongs partly to the original lode-filling, or is exclusively associated with the younger arsenical filling, cannot be definitely determined. It is certain however that by far the greater part of the gold is associated with the arsenic, and referable therefore to the younger filling. The highest result obtained from the samples taken by Krusch was 276 grm. per ton, though the average is reckoned to be about 45.4 grammes. The silver varies between 15 and 211 grm., being 80 grm. on an average.

#### THE OCCURRENCE OF GOLD AT SCHELLGADEN IN THE LUNGAU TAVERN

##### LITERATURE

F. NEUGEBAUER. Lecture, Vienna Mineralogical Society, May 2, 1904. 'Austrian Geological Survey,' Section St. Michael, G. MEYER, K. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1891, 1892, 1893.—F. BEYSCHLAG. 'Der Goldbergbau Schellgaden in den Lungauer Tauern,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1897, p. 210.

The Lungau is the seat of an ancient and flourishing mining industry, concerning which however reliable data are only available from the fourteenth century. The basement rock of the whole Lungau consists of three occurrences of gneiss; to the powerful gneissic granite of the Ankogel massive belong the mountain masses of the Reissegge group, those of the Hafen Eck, and those of the Hochalpenspitze, all of which strike into this district. According to Geyer these are altered eruptives of obvious eruptive character in the foot-wall but of schistose structure in the hanging-wall. The second gneissic massive overlies peripherally that just mentioned, and according to Vacek and Geyer consists of normal hornblende-gneiss and schist; the Kareg range and the Schlattming mass belong to this occurrence. The third occurrence consists of blocky



two-mica gneiss. Over these three gneissic cores the schists of the Lungau Tauern spread as a covering; they consist of garnet-mica schists and of calc-phyllites, these two formations being separated from each other by a plane of considerable disturbance.

For the gold deposits the hornblende-gneiss, which is an alternation of hornblende-gneiss proper, hornblende-free schistose gneiss, and green schist, appears to be the most important.

The Gannthal gold deposit occurs in green mica-schist with fibrous structure. In its upper horizons this mica-schist carries large quartz lenses often containing small amounts of sulphides, which, though occasionally worthless, often constitute, and especially where they are plentiful, rich pyrite deposits. These consist chiefly of pyrite but also contain chalcopryrite, bornite, some sphalerite, and arsenopyrite. In the quartz fine mica films are intercalated. The pyrite deposits have generally a thickness of 0.25 to 2.00 m., though in the Barbara district 8 m. has been reached.

The strike of the Schellgaden deposits is usually roughly north-south. The gold content of the quartz led in early times to prospecting work. In those days, on account of the pronounced bedding generally seen, the occurrences were regarded as beds conformable in strike and dip with the formation. The bedded nature was however doubted by later authorities—Milichofer and Rosegger—who, assuming the presence of a dislocation zone and remarking the splitting of the deposit into veins, considered the deposits to be lodes. Beyschlag however in 1897 pointed out that the occurrences could not aptly be described as lodes. According to him the ore-bearing lenses are not irregularly distributed in the country but occur in a north-south line which, taken alone or together with other neighbouring parallel occurrences, has the character of a zone of disturbance, with which disturbance the introduction of the ore is probably connected. The so-called beds are therefore narrow zones following the principal fissure and containing quartz lenses in good number and metalliferous. These zones are crossed and dislocated by barren east-west fissures. While therefore Beyschlag inclines to the bedded nature of the quartz lenses and assumes a subsequent introduction of the ore, Neugebauer as the result of his investigation comes to the conclusion that the quartz, gold, and sulphides, were simultaneously deposited from one and the same solution and are younger than the country-rock, and that consequently the deposits are entirely epigenetic and represent the filling of cavities which arose as the Alps were folded into position.

The most important deposits are found at Stüblbau in the Gannthal, at Maradlwand, and at Zaneischg. The extension of the occurrence has

been proved for more than 2 km., along which length however the continuity of the ore is broken by unpayable and barren patches.

The Gannthal deposits are therefore true bedded lodes which were probably formed by the same happenings as those to which the gold occurrences in the Hohe Tauern owe their existence. The filling consists of quartz, such quartz being of indistinct crystalline habit and exhibiting those evidences of pressure or stress as are characteristic of all quartz deposits occurring in the older geological formations. The presence of scheelite is interesting, this mineral being typical of tin lodes. The sulphides, among which pyrite is most noticeable, rarely form solid masses but are distributed fairly equally throughout. Where however such masses are more plentiful they usually occur parallel with the mica films which divide the quartz into small irregular lenses. The minerals present form an assembly having much in common with the mineral-association of the Hohe Tauern. The gold occurs in small particles in the quartz itself, though it also occurs as an accessory constituent with the sulphides. The gold content of these sulphides, from the results available, varies between 5 grm. and 69 grm. per ton, in addition to which silver is present to the extent of 10-40 grm. per ton. The concentrate recovered in treatment contains 500-600 grm. of gold and 200-300 grm. of silver per ton.

## THE GOLD OCCURRENCE AT ROUDNY IN BOHEMIA

### LITERATURE

F. POŠENÝ. 'Goldvorkommen in Böhmen,' Arch. f. prakt. Geol., II., 1895.—P. KRUSCH. 'Über die Goldlagerstätten von Roudny in Böhmen,' Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges., 1902.—O. EXPERT, 'Der Golderzbergbau von Roudny in Böhmen,' Österr. Zeit. f. d. Berg- u. Hüttenwesen, 1905.—R. BECK. Lehre von den Erzlagerstätten, 1909.

The gold occurrence at Roudny, about 60 km. south-south-west of Prague and 15 km. east of Woditz in the department of Borkowitz, has of late years become more widely known. According to Beck, the rock which forms there a flat, partly wooded ridge between the Liboun valley and another coming from Ramena, consists chiefly of biotite-gneiss traversed by numerous bosses and dykes of a tourmaline-granite, and much metamorphosed. This granite has often a pegmatitic and sometimes an aplitic character. According to Krusch, on the other hand, the biotite-gneiss is a pressure-deformed granite which has assumed a fibrous, gneiss-like structure; in many places it merges into granite. It contains in addition large and small amphibolite inclusions, which are resorbed along their outlines. The gneiss, gneiss-granite, and amphibolite, are all traversed by aplite.

In this rock complex a number of fissures occur, which generally strike east-west, dip some 60°-70° to the north, and are arranged in systems.

These fissures have generally a width of but a few millimetres, seldom centimetres, and are filled with quartz and pyrite. On either hand an alteration of the granite has taken place, this being chiefly in the form of an impregnation with quartz and pyrite. Though these fissures are in general parallel along the strike they often intersect in dip. In addition, numerous intersecting veins similarly filled proceed from the fissures and traverse

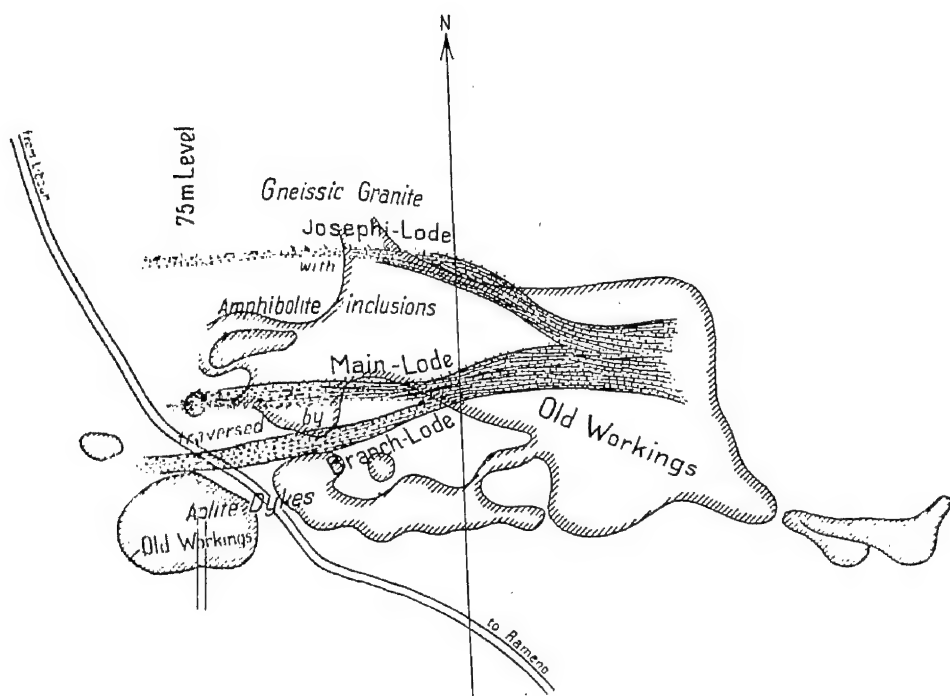


FIG. 326.—The gold lodes at Roudny. Krusch, *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1902.

the granite, the felspar of which is sometimes kaolinized and sometimes, as is also the case with the biotite, replaced by quartz and pyrite.

By this far-reaching silicification and pyritization the granite zones in which the fissures occur have become altered to pyrite- and quartz-impregnated zones, such zones being mined as single occurrences; they have as a rule no sharp boundaries against the normal gneiss-granite. Three such zones are known, these from north to south being the Josephi lode, the Main lode, and the Branch lode. These dip steeply to the north and vary considerably in width, this dimension sometimes reaching as

much as 20 metres. Continued towards the east, as illustrated in Fig. 326, they unite to form one deposit.

The gold content of these veins and impregnation zones is chiefly associated with the pyrite; gold however occurs free and finely divided in the quartz; while finally, it is found as flakes and indefinite crystals upon the cleavage-planes of quartz and pyrite. As usual with most gold deposits, here also the content varies greatly, from a few grammes to more than 100 grm. per ton. In general it is found that receding from the fissures the gold regularly decreases; and that the coarse pyrite crystals contain less gold than the aggregates of fine crystals. It is further found that where the impregnation zones come together the gold content is more than usually high. The included patches of amphibolite contain practically no gold though they are not free from pyrite. The aplite dykes dislocate the gold lodes. The auriferous zones are crossed by north-south fissures which are either barren or carry but little ore. The numerous old workings around Roudny would indicate a large number of lodes.

The intimate association of the quartz, pyrite, and gold, suggests their simultaneous formation. Since, however, irregular intergrowth of pyrite and quartz is more often observed on the walls leaving the centre occupied by quartz alone, it would appear that the deposition of the quartz must have continued longer than that of the pyrite. The age of the impregnation is probably great; in any case impregnation had already taken place before the aplite dykes were intruded and before the system of north-south fissures was formed.

#### THE GOLD DEPOSITS AT HUSSDORF-WÜNSCHENDORF IN SILESIA

In the Palæozoic slates between Lähn and Greiffenberg, as indicated by old workings upon the surface, many lodes striking roughly north-south, occur. At Hussdorf two such lodes, distinguished respectively as I. and II., dip to the east and are connected by a diagonal lode striking east-west. At Wünschendorf, but one has been explored, this striking north-north-east and dipping east-south-east. At the In-der-Pinge<sup>1</sup> mine a lode, following the contact between Silurian limestone and slate, strikes north-west and dips north-east.

These lodes are fissure-fillings with definite walls. In width they vary from a few centimetres to more than a metre. The lode material consists of quartz, auriferous arsenopyrite, and pyrite. Although when these sulphides are well developed they occupy almost the entire width, their occurrence is more usually limited to a sprinkling in the quartzose material. Fragments of country-rock within the lode are seldom found,

<sup>1</sup> In the old workings.

or is silicification or impregnation of the walls often observed. The lodes are affected by a large number of disturbances both along the strike and in dip. Along the strike the lode is cut into pieces often not much more than a metre in length, such pieces being generally but little displaced. Where these faults cut the lode at an oblique angle any lateral displacement of the lode takes the form of an overlap. Along the dip, vertical displacements have taken place along clay-partings, dipping flatly in various directions.

These lodes are characterized by well-defined secondary migration of the metal content. The oxidation zone has been eroded to such an extent that the cementation zone almost comes to the surface. It consists of the residual quartzose gangue with coatings and skins of limonite and auriferous pyrite and arsenopyrite. In the primary zone the lode width quickly diminishes and at no great depth only unimportant fissures remain. The gold content is not exclusively connected with the arsenopyrite but also with the pyrite. The ore in the cementation zone sometimes contains as much as 40 gm. per ton, whereas in the primary zone the content is limited to a few grammes, nor have any ore-shoots been established. Mining operations on this occurrence are but on a small scale and work only proceeds occasionally.

#### NORWAY, SWEDEN, AND FINLAND

Quartz lodes with traces of gold have been established in many places in these countries. Gold lodes proper, however, with a higher gold content have seldom been proved, while rich lodes are unknown.

The lodes at Ädelfors in Småland and at Eidsvold in the Christiania district occur in the fundamental schists. At both places, and especially in the eighteenth century, these lodes were worked, though at great loss. The position of Eidsvold is indicated in Fig. 147. Similar deposits are found in northern Finland.

On the island of Bömmelö, situated south of Bergen off the west coast of Norway, some gold-quartz lodes traverse what are chiefly intensely altered basic rocks belonging to the Cambrian-Silurian formation.<sup>1</sup> These lodes, which occur in the neighbourhood of magmatic-intrusive pyrite deposits, have since 1882 been worked sporadically, producing only about 100 kg. of gold.<sup>2</sup>

At Svartdal in Telemarken, some quartz-tourmaline lodes in quartz-diorite occur carrying native gold with much bismuthinite and some copper ore, etc. Further details of these will be found under the description of

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 305.

<sup>2</sup> H. Reusch, *Bömmelöen og Karmöen*, 1888.

the copper ores of Telemarken given later. Reference may also be made to a previous mention of the gold lodes at Fahlun, where the gold is accompanied by bismuth.<sup>1</sup>

### THE METASOMATIC GOLD-DEPOSITS

Gold deposits of metasomatic origin are but seldom encountered, though isolated occurrences of such are found both with the young gold-silver- and with the old gold groups. Since all over the world gold ore consists chiefly of quartz, metasomatic processes resulting in the formation of gold deposits must of necessity be identical with the processes of silicification, or impregnation with quartz. Among the occurrences here to be described only that at Lydenburg, where limestone or dolomite has been altered to quartz, presents the true type of metasomatic formation. All the other deposits represent replacements of country rock consisting of sandstone, slate, etc., by silica, and may accordingly be regarded as extreme cases of quartz impregnation; they are therefore closely related to lodes.

#### LYDENBURG IN THE TRANSVAAL

##### LITERATURE

J. KUNTZ. 'Über die Goldvorkommen im Lydenburger Distrikt,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1896, p. 433.—P. R. KRAUSE. 'Über den Einfluss der Eruptivgesteine auf die Erzführung der Witwatersrand-Konglomerate und der im dolomitischen Kalkgebirge von Lydenburg auftretenden Quarzflöze, nebst einer kurzen Schilderung der Grubenbezirke von Pilgrim's Rest und De Kaap,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897.—F. W. VORR. 'Übersicht über die nutzbaren Lagerstätten Südafrikas,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1908.

The dolomite beds of Lydenburg, lying upon clay-slates, rise near Pilgrim's Rest up to as much as 1000 m. above the level of the valley; intercalated with them, even to the top of the range, are numerous sheets of trap.

The primary gold deposits in this district were discovered during the exploitation of gold gravels. Krause describes them as quartz beds, and points out that some of them, especially in the neighbourhood of the trap where that rock is decomposed, contain gold up to 600 grm. per ton. Such a content would probably be due to cementation, since with all the occurrences at Lydenburg, so far as at present known, the secondary processes of decomposition have played an important part. The shallower portions of the quartz beds at Jubilee Hill and the New Clewer Estate have apparently been leached by hot springs, such leaching having given to the quartz a spongy, porous, and pumiceous character, so

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 314, 315.

that it easily crumbles and covers the floor of the working. The beds are only in places horizontal; more usually they form flat anticlines and synclines. In greater detail the circumstances of their bedding are illus-

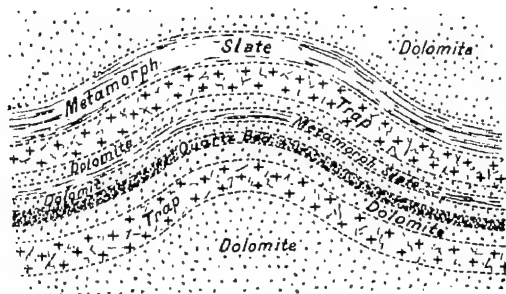


FIG. 327.—Section showing the geological position of the auriferous quartz bed and the trap sheets in the Mulmani dolomite, Lydenburg. Krause, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897, Fig. 8.

trated in Figs. 327 and 328. In only one case, that illustrated in the above-mentioned Fig. 328, did Krause observe them to be intruded by an eruptive. The dyke in that case dragged the auriferous material right to surface with it, indicating that it was younger than the deposit. It

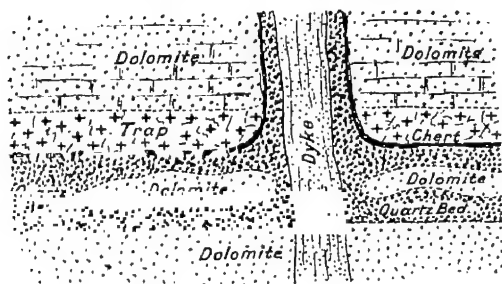


FIG. 328.—Section in the New Clewer Estate mine, Lydenburg. A diabase dyke crosses the quartz bed; both the quartz and trap extend along the dyke. Krause, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897, Fig. 9.

is characteristic of these quartz beds that they do not always keep to the same horizon. The payable thickness is 0.15–0.70 m., or on an average 0.40 m., with an average gold content of 30 grm. per ton. Some copper accompanies the gold.

Voit considers rightly that these are metasomatic occurrences and represent certain limestone bands which have become altered to quartz. They present therefore in all probability the rare case of a typically metasomatic gold deposit formed from limestone.

The occurrence at the Csetatye near Verespatak, mentioned when

describing the young gold-silver lodes, also belongs to the metasomatic occurrences.<sup>1</sup> In view of the former description, only those criteria will here be mentioned which are indicative of the metasomatic character of this deposit. The rock forming the Csetatye hill has been differently described by different authors, a remarkable fact explicable in that, apart from the complicated conditions of bedding, the dacite as well as the accompanying tuffs and sediments have suffered profound alteration. As stated when describing the lodes of the Verespatak district, in addition to lodes, ore-chimneys appear, which column-like and of small section sink into depth. According to Pošepný the intersection of a large number of fractures to form an inextricable maze represents the simplest form of such chimneys. At such intersections the rock is particularly decomposed and impregnated with silica and pyrite. These chimneys are usually connected with eruptive breccias of which the cementing material is porous, pumiceous rhyolite. In this district two deposits particularly were famous for their richness in gold, the Katroncza ore-chimney and the Csetatye. It is the latter only which is of interest here. A vast excavation near the summit of the Boj hill, dating from the time of the Romans and presumed to have been made largely by fire-setting, owes its existence to the presence of an important deposit which occurs partly in the eruptive rock but to a greater extent either in the adjacent *Lokalsediment*, or at the contact of the one rock with the other. Tremendous blocks of Carpathian sandstone were borne upward in the dacite magma. All the rocks exhibit pronounced silicification so that their original petrographical characters are to a great extent obliterated. Breccias of older rhyolite and dacite cemented by younger porous rhyolite traverse the *Lokalsediment* as well as the completely silicified dacite. Originally there occurred here a confused network of irregular fissures ramifying through dacite, *Lokalsediment* and Carpathian sandstone, replacing these rocks to a great extent by quartz and pyrite. Pošepný proposed for such deposits the name of 'ore-typhoons.'<sup>2</sup> The ore-minerals found in this deposit have already been briefly stated.<sup>3</sup>

## MOUNT MORGAN IN QUEENSLAND

### LITERATURE

J. MACDONALD CAMERON. Managers' Report, Mount Morgan Company, March 26, 1887.—R. L. JACK. Rep. Geol. Survey, Queensland, 1884; and Mount Morgan Gold-Deposits, 1892.—T. A. RICKARD. 'The Mount Morgan Mine,' Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., 1891, Vol. XX.—K. SCHMEISSER. Die Goldfelder Australasiens, Berlin, 1897. Dietrich Reimer.—S. F. EMMONS. 'Structural Relations of Ore Deposits,' Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng. XVI. p. 804.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 546.

<sup>2</sup> *Erztyphone*.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 546.



This deposit occurring in central Queensland south-west of Rockhampton, is one of the most interesting and important in the world. Its prominent place in literature is in no small measure owing to the circumstance that it was formerly regarded as a geyser deposit, an origin which would make it unique among economic gold deposits. This mine works a quarry the summit of a hill 500 feet above the surrounding level and 15 feet above the sea, in a district forming part of the fore-ground of that important mountain chain which, known in New South Wales as the Blue Mountains and in Victoria as the Australian Alps, traverses the three colonies parallel to the east and south-east coasts of the Australian continent. The tectonics of the occurrence are simple. The upper

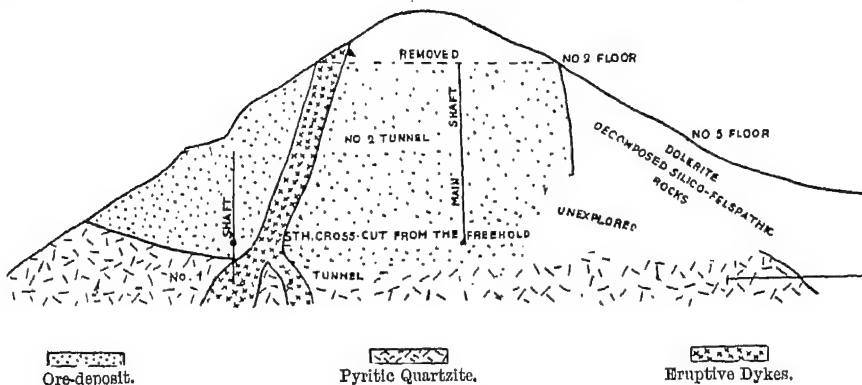


FIG. 329.—Section through the Mount Morgan deposit. Rickard, *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.*, 1891, Vol. XX. p. 143.

portions of the hill consist of Desert Sandstone presumably belonging to the Cretaceous. Below this comes a sequence of grauwacke, quartzite, slate, and occasionally serpentine. Eruptive dykes belonging to at least two geological epochs traverse these sediments, those of dolerite, in part interbedded, being particularly noteworthy. The ore-deposit constitutes the summit of the hill. Broadly speaking it forms a flat cone, the basin-shaped base of which rests upon pyritiferous quartzite. Both this quartzite and the ore-deposit, as illustrated in Fig. 329, are traversed by dykes.

The ore is very friable so that its comminution presents no difficulty. In petrographical character it varies greatly. In the opencut workings bluish-grey crushed quartz, greatly resembling ore from the Comstock lode, is often observed. In other places silicified haematite is found, this being generally regarded as the characteristic type of Mount Morgan ore. These ferruginous masses resemble the outcrops of ordinary gold-

quartz lodes as such often appear in California and Victoria. In addition, other dark heavy ironstone, which might very well be taken for the gossan of a sulphide lode, is also met, as well as light-coloured reddish ore such as might arise in the oxidation zone of a copper deposit. One portion of the material has been crushed to a sugar-like, lightly compacted powder, while another forms solid masses. Stalactitic structures, in part filling cavities, are also not infrequent. Some bluish-black iridescent ore was very rich. In the Freehold adit a nest of white, porous, friable rock, considered to be sinter, was encountered which, doubtless because of the numerous air-inclusions, was so light that it floated on water. Generally the ore is dull, though formerly it yielded beautiful specimens of gold quartz some of which may now be seen in the Sydney Museum; in general these consisted largely of limonite and free gold. As a rule however the gold is finely distributed and difficult to recognize in its environment of iron oxide.

However distinct these different varieties of ore may be, all consist essentially of quartz. The deposit may therefore be regarded as a quartz mass, variable in colour and specific gravity, and traversed by north-west striking dykes. Below a depth of about 90 m. an auriferous and pyritiferous quartzite sets in; while deeper still the presence of an auriferous copper ore containing 3.5 per cent of copper and 12 grm. of gold was proved by boring. The extension of the occurrence has now been fairly definitely determined; to the south-west it is bounded by a large felspar dyke, and its greatest extension therefore apparently lies to the north and north-east.

The genesis of this deposit is a much disputed question. R. L. Jack regarded it as a geyser deposit; J. Macdonald Cameron considered it an auriferous zone traversed by a network of gold-quartz veins; while some mining engineers expressed the opinion that it was the gossan of a large pyritic lode. Rickard, putting aside all these three theories, considered it in greater part to be a metasomatic occurrence. To him it represented a highly altered part of a shattered country which had been saturated with mineral solutions and in part replaced by auriferous quartz. If this theory be accepted this deposit is another of the rare cases of metasomatic gold deposits. We consider there is much in favour of this view. It explains quite naturally the variable character of the ore by reason of the variable character of the original rock, as well as the great width of the deposit. The grauwacke appears to be the rock which has suffered replacement to the greatest extent, this rock generally overlying the quartzite which forms the base of Mount Morgan. That in any case it is a deposit closely allied to the old gold group is evidenced by the purity of its gold, comparative purity being characteristic of the lodes of that group.

The economic importance of this occurrence may be gathered from the following figures of production for the year 1907 :<sup>1</sup>

District.	Gravel Gold.	Lode Gold.	Total.
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.
Charters Towers . . . . .	846	174,706	175,552
Gympie . . . . .	466	63,716	64,227
Mount Morgan . . . . .	354	145,420	145,774
Ravenswood . . . . .	364	34,466	34,830
Croydon . . . . .	...	13,411	13,411
Clermont . . . . .	4,364	421	4,785
Etheridge and Woolgar . . . .	812	7,290	8,102
Other districts . . . . .	2,127	17,074	19,201

Concerning the gold content of Mount Morgan ore, some idea may be formed from the following data. In 1889 this mine produced 323,542 oz. of gold, having a value of £1,331,484 from 75,415 tons of ore, or 4 oz. 6 dwt. per ton. From this high figure the content slowly but steadily diminished in depth. While formerly 100 grm. per ton was nothing unusual, in 1903 the average recovered was but 15 grammes. In 1906 the depth of the mine was about 250 metres.

#### UNITED STATES

Deposits very similar to that of Mount Morgan are found at Red Mountain Basin, Colorado, where portions of an andesitic rock occur, the basic constituents of which have been extracted by silicated waters and replaced by quartz. The quartzose masses thus formed, presenting as they did considerable resistance to atmospheric agencies and erosion, remain to-day outstanding as hills. Although these occurrences have no economic significance they are particularly interesting, inasmuch as the geyser theory was also applied in explanation of their genesis.

As pointed out by Rickard in his paper on Mount Morgan, the Yankee Girl and Bassick mines in Colorado to a certain extent belong to this class of occurrence. The first-named lies in the San Juan district and is well known. In that occurrence several crush zones enclose between them a triangular mass which has been so decomposed and replaced by circulating solutions that practically a solid mass of ore has resulted.

<sup>1</sup> Official Year Book of the Commonwealth of Australia, No. 2, 1909.

# REVIEW OF THE GOLD-SILVER PRODUCTION, AND ITS DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF DEPOSIT

## LITERATURE

A. SOETBEER. 'Edelmetallproduktion und Wertverhältnis zwischen Gold und Silber,' Petermanns Mittheilung, Supplementary Part 57, Supplementary Vol. XIII., 1879.—  
B. NEUMANN. Die Metalle u.s.w. nebst Produktions- und Preisstatistik, Halle, 1904. The first-mentioned work gives figures up to 1875; the second from 1876-1900. Further, 'The Mineral Industry,' 'Mineral Resources of the United States,' Zeit f. prakt. Geol., Fortschr. d. prakt. Geol., etc. (*ante*, pp. 207, 208). For olden times and for the semi-civilized countries the figures are only approximate.

## WORLD'S TOTAL GOLD PRODUCTION (In Tons)

	Before 1875, in greater part since 1493.	1876 to 1900.	1901 to 1909.	1910.	Total to 1900.
Austria-Hungary, since 1493 . . . . .	460.7	53.6	31.6	3.4	549.3
Sweden . . . . .	...	1.5	0.4	...	...
Germany . . . . .	...	...	0.8	...	...
Russian Empire, since 1741 . . . . .	1033.7	965.9	335.9	60.4	2395.9
Canada . . . . .	...	...	203.1	15.4	218.5
United States, since 1849 . . . . .	2026.1	1582.0	1173.7	144.5	4926.3
Mexico, since 1521 . . . . .	265.0	99.2	213.6	36.2	614.0
Central America . . . . .	...	...	24.9	4.1	...
Guiana . . . . .	...	...	58.5	7.6	...
Colombia . . . . .	...	...	37.1	4.7	...
Venezuela . . . . .	...	...	2.4	...	...
New Granada, since 1537 . . . . .	1214.5	116.9	...	...	1331.4
Peru, since 1533 . . . . .	163.6	6.5	11.8	0.9	182.8
Bolivia, since 1545 . . . . .	294.0	6.8	10.3	...	...
Chili, since 1545 . . . . .	263.6	118.9	...	1.3	694.9
Brazil, since 1691 . . . . .	1037.1	43.2	30.3	3.0	1113.6
British India . . . . .	...	...	148.7	18.2	...
British Farther India . . . . .	...	...	17.9	2.2	...
Dutch East India . . . . .	...	...	18.7	3.3	...
China . . . . .	...	...	92.1	15.2	...
Korea . . . . .	...	...	36.0	3.0	...
Japan . . . . .	...	...	34.7	6.7	...
Africa, since 1493 . . . . .	731.6	706.8	1413.7	263.1	2115.2
Australia, since 1851 . . . . .	1812.0	1434.0	1089.1	98.3	4433.4
Other countries . . . . .	151.6	353.1	15.3	10.5	...
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>9453.3</b>	<b>5581.6</b>	<b>5001.1</b>	<b>701.0</b>	<b>20737.1</b>
Value in millions sterling . . . . .	1285	765	687	101	2838

## REMARKS ON THE ABOVE TABLE

From 1876-1900 Germany produced altogether 41 tons of gold, almost exclusively from imported ores. In the figures for Chili during the period 1876-1900, the production of Guiana and Venezuela from 1876-1895 is also included. Since 1884 the preponderating part of the African production has come from the Transvaal.

The relation between the production of gold and that of silver in different periods has been as follows :

From 1500-1875	.	.	.	1 of gold to 19.1 of silver.
" 1876-1900	.	.	.	1 " 17.6 "
" 1901-1908	.	.	.	1 " 10.0 "

The relation between the value of equal weights of gold and silver at different periods has been :

1493-1600	.	.	.	1 : 11.80
1601-1700	.	.	.	1 : 14.10
1701-1800	.	.	.	1 : 14.98
1801-1850	.	.	.	1 : 15.68
1851-1875	.	.	.	1 : 15.52
1876-1880	.	.	.	1 : 17.88
1881-1885	.	.	.	1 : 18.64
1886-1890	.	.	.	1 : 21.16
1891-1895	.	.	.	1 : 27.05
1896-1900	.	.	.	1 : 33.29
1901	.	.	.	1 : 34.68
1905	.	.	.	1 : 33.87
1908	.	.	.	1 : 38.67

The average yearly production of gold in different periods has been :

1493-1600	.	.	.	7,100 kg.
1601-1700	.	.	.	9,100
1701-1800	.	.	.	19,000
1801-1820	.	.	.	14,800
1821-1840	.	.	.	17,750
1841-1850	.	.	.	54,760
1851-1860	.	.	.	201,790
1861-1870	.	.	.	188,160
1871-1880	.	.	.	169,880
1881-1890	.	.	.	154,450
1891-1900	.	.	.	319,170
1901	.	.	.	392,705
1903	.	.	.	493,083
1905	.	.	.	568,232
1908	.	.	.	667,071
1910	.	.	.	701,019

With the discovery of gravel gold in California in 1848, and in Australia in 1849, the world's yearly production suddenly increased to ten times its previous amount, that is, from 20,000 to 200,000 kg. These gravels becoming in greatest part exhausted before many decades had passed, a drop in the production followed, this continuing till in the 'eighties a minimum was reached. Then, as in the United States and Australia gold-quartz lodes in number became worked, the production rose again. Such lodes in North America became developed more particularly after the 'nineties. Production from the auriferous conglomerates of the Transvaal began in the middle of the 'eighties after which it quickly reached gigantic proportions; while the world's production was further increased in the middle of the 'nineties by the output from the important telluride lodes of Western Australia, these two latter increments being responsible for the pronounced upward swing of late years.

The three most important classes of gold deposit are, the ore-beds as represented by the Witwatersrand conglomerate, the young gold lodes, and the old gold lodes, these last being accompanied by important gravel-deposits.

The Witwatersrand conglomerate has latterly produced about 35 per cent of the world's total production.

From the young gold lodes, of late years about 45 per cent of the production of the United States has been derived and approximately 80 per cent of that of Mexico. Lodes belonging to this group have also yielded by far the greater portion of the gold won in Central America, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, and Chili; a considerable portion of the output of Japan; and in addition the entire production of Hauraki in New Zealand, and of Hungary. The total production of these young gold lodes reaches roughly somewhat more than 100,000 kg. per year; in 1910 it was about 110,000 kg. If to this amount be added that of the telluride lodes of Western Australia then one-quarter of the world's total production is derived from this group.

Still more important are the old gold lodes with their appurtenant placers. These yield approximately one-half of the present production of the United States, and almost the entire production of Canada, the Russian Empire, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and many other countries. It may be taken therefore that approximately one-third of the world's production is obtained from the old lodes and the metasomatic occurrences associated with them. Since it is from this group that the extensive gravel-deposits were derived, the proportion of the world's production referable to it was formerly much greater; at the beginning of the 'fifties, for instance, it was responsible for about nine-tenths of the world's production.

A small amount of gold comes from contact-deposits, these being particularly represented in Mexico; while a still smaller amount is obtained from copper- and other deposits.

Altogether therefore, the distribution of the world's present production among the different classes of deposit with their associated gravel-deposits is approximately as follows:

Witwatersrand conglomerate . . . . .	about 35 per cent.
Old gold lodes . . . . .	" 33 "
Young gold lodes . . . . .	" 25 "
Contact-deposits . . . . .	" 1-5 "
Other deposits . . . . .	small amounts.

# THE GOLD-SILVER PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD

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## WORLD'S TOTAL SILVER PRODUCTION FROM MINES (In Tons)

	Before 1875, in greater part since 1493.	1876 to 1900.	1901 to 1909.	Total to 1909.
Germany, since 1493 . . . . .	7,905	4,568	1,549	14,022
Austria-Hungary, since 1403 . . . . .	7,770	1,247	488	9,505
Russian Empire, since 1741 . . . . .	2,429	246	46	2,721
Spain and Portugal . . . . .	...	1,755	1,150	...
Greece . . . . .	...	...	259	...
Italy . . . . .	...	393	220	...
France . . . . .	...	...	180	...
Norway, since 1642 . . . . .	799	149	59	1,007
Great Britain . . . . .	...	...	52	...
Sweden, since 1506 . . . . .	252	64	10	...
Turkey . . . . .	...	...	152	...
Remaining Europe . . . . .	6,331	2,625	...	...
Chili, since 1721 . . . . .	2,609	3,513	4,478	89,612
Bolivia, since 1545 . . . . .	37,718	7,927		
Peru, since 1533 . . . . .	31,222	2,145		
Colombia . . . . .	...	...		
Mexico, since 1521 . . . . .	76,205	28,281	17,112	122,148
United States, since 1851 . . . . .	5,272	36,181	15,522	56,985
Canada . . . . .	...	...	3,056	...
Japan . . . . .	...	980	757	...
East Indies . . . . .	...	...	71	...
Australia . . . . .	...	5,662	3,792	9,454
Africa . . . . .	...	...	115	...
Other countries . . . . .	2,000	2,646	...	...
Totals . . . . .	180,511	98,325	49,191	328,532
Value in millions sterling . . . . .	1,595	635	186	2,466

## ORE-DEPOSITS

AVERAGE YEARLY SILVER PRODUCTION AT DIFFERENT PERIODS  
(In Tons)

	1851 to 1855.	1876 to 1880.	1891 to 1895.	1900.	1905.	1909.
Germany . . . .	49	164	176	168	181	166
Austria-Hungary . .	35	48	57	62	58	31
Russia . . . .	17	9	12	5	6	4
Spain and Portugal .	...	...	58	99	124	148
Greece . . . .	...	...	...	31	26	26
Italy . . . .	...	...	24	23	24	25
France . . . .	...	...	87	14	9	18
Norway . . . .	...	...	5	5	8	7
Great Britain . . .	...	...	8	7	5	4
Sweden . . . .	...	...	3	2	1	1
Turkey . . . .	...	...	...	4	17	24
Remaining Europe .	72	110	113	...	...	0.3
Argentina . . . .	...	...	25	12	2	4
Chili . . . .	68	110	84	178	126	44
Bolivia . . . .	73	252	470	325	205	213
Peru . . . .	77	58	85	204	156	195
Ecuador . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	2
Colombia . . . .	...	...	44	87	31	41
Mexico . . . .	466	663	1448	1787	1700	2300
United States . . .	8	1176	1693	1793	1745	1702
Canada . . . .	...	...	...	138	330	867
Japan . . . .	...	16	53	54	75	133
East Indies . . . .	...	...	...	3	6	15
Australia . . . .	...	...	506	415	391	509
Africa . . . .	...	...	...	...	19	34
Other countries . .	4	14	65	...	...	...
Totals . . . .	870	2620	4958	5400	5050	6500
Price in shillings per kilogramme . . . .	182 180	176 172	107 105	83.61 81	82.34 80	70.27 69

These tables refer to the production from mines and not to that from smelting works, these latter being always partly employed in treating imported ores. Exceptionally, the figure for France during the period 1891-1895 probably includes the silver from some imported ore.

To the Tertiary silver lodes belong: the preponderating number of the silver lodes in Mexico; those in Central America, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia; the greater number of the silver lodes of Chili; a large number of the lodes of the United States, these approximately providing one-half of the present production of that country; almost all the lodes of Japan and Hungary; several of the most important deposits of Spain; and some deposits in other countries. The total silver production up to and including 1909 may be said to be 330,000 tons valued approximately at 2500 million sterling. Of this total somewhat more than one-third was derived from Mexico, and somewhat less than one-third from Central and South America. If to the preponderating portion from those countries be added one-half of the total production of the United States, together



with that of Hungary, the largest part of that of Japan, and a portion of that of Spain, it follows that approximately two-thirds of the total silver production hitherto, has been derived from Tertiary lodes. Considering only recent years, then a proportion of something over one-half, say 55 per cent, is obtained. With respect to silver this geological group is consequently the most important group. Owing to the extremely rich accumulations of ore found with many of these lodes<sup>1</sup> and the consequently low cost of production, these Tertiary lodes have largely determined the price of silver. They were in fact responsible for the drop in price which occurred a few decades ago, except in so far as that drop was referable to the introduction of gold coinage in some countries.

The old silver- or silver-lead lodes, such for instance as those of the Erzgebirge, Příbram, the Harz, Kongsberg, etc., when compared with the Tertiary lodes, are seen to be of less importance. The richest of this old group are those recently discovered at Temiskaming in Canada. Including these, the old lodes are responsible for some 15 per cent of the world's silver production to date, a percentage which of late years has somewhat increased.

An important part of the total silver production, some 10 per cent, comes from the metasomatic deposits, which carry lead-zinc ores chiefly. The contact-deposits yield only about 5 per cent. Among copper lodes also, are some which are quite rich in silver, such for instance as those at Butte, Montana, where latterly about 250 tons of silver have been produced yearly. The production of silver from such lodes may reach some 7.5 per cent of the total production. The silver content of the Mansfeld copper-shale, the yearly silver output from which amounts to about 100 tons or not quite 2 per cent of the world's production, is well known. Altogether therefore, approximately one-tenth of the total production is obtained as a by-product in copper smelting.

Finally, the bed-like pyrite occurrences such as the Rammelsberg deposit, the intrusive pyrite deposits, and others, yield some silver.

The average proportions of the world's silver production for which of late years these different classes of deposit have respectively been responsible, are therefore approximately as follows :

Young silver-gold group	.	.	.	about 55.0 per cent.
Old silver-lead group	.	.	.	" 15.0 "
Metasomatic lead-silver-zinc group	.	.	.	" 10.0 "
Copper lodes	.	.	.	" 7.5 "
Contact-deposits	.	.	.	" 5.0 "
Copper-shale group	.	.	.	not quite 2.0 "
Other groups	.	.	.	a small amount.

Although these figures are only approximate they are sufficient to place beyond doubt the great importance of the young Tertiary lodes in the silver production.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 529.

## THE LEAD-SILVER-ZINC LODES

As with most lodes so also with these, an association between the lode material and eruptive rocks or tectonic disturbances can in many cases be traced, in that the deposits have to all appearances been formed by mineral solutions which themselves were consequent upon the intrusion of old eruptive rocks. Concerning the distribution and importance of this group, it may be said that by far the greater number of all lodes belong to it. With regard to form, both simple and composite lodes—the latter in the sense of Cotta—may be distinguished, the former being narrow while the latter generally are wide, the width in extreme cases exceeding 100 metres. The most important natural concentrations of lead-silver-zinc ore are generally found in such composite lodes. In their extent along the strike these lodes vary greatly; there are, on the one hand, small fissures of but a few decimetres in length, and, on the other, lodes which continue for several kilometres.

Although, as with all lodes, the mineralization is generally irregular, in this regard the simple lodes differ from the composite, in that these latter, besides being dependent upon the composition of the solution and the possible influence of the country-rock, are, in the distribution of their contained ore, also dependent upon the inclusion of large fragments of country-rock. Since with such inclusions the alternation of rock and ore is subject to no regular law, it follows that in opening up such lodes chance is a greater factor than with the simple lodes. It is often the case therefore, that in mines which exploit composite lodes considerable development work must of necessity be undertaken in barren rock, in order to expose new ore-bodies, or ore-shoots as they are sometimes termed. This primary irregularity in distribution upon the lode plane has sometimes been so pronounced as to have discredited entire districts.

The continuation in depth is likewise very variable, the only permissible statement being the well-known tenet, that those lodes which have considerable extent along the strike usually also exhibit considerable

persistence in depth. On the surface the lodes, according to the nature of their filling, are more or less well defined ; where much quartz is present they may form ledges or reefs which subsequently break, scattering fragments to mark their course ; more often however the lode-filling consists chiefly of slaty material in which the ore is either disseminated or confined to veins. In such a case the lode does not differ materially from the country-rock in hardness and its course may often only be distinguishable by a dull reddish-brown colour, while when the surface rubble is thick even this may not be noticeable.

The ores of these lodes are chiefly galena, sphalerite, and pyrite, while the remaining sulphides, and especially the sulpho-salts, though they may often be present, are generally of less importance. The gangue sometimes consists chiefly of quartz, and sometimes of carbonates, barite, etc. Siderite in some districts occurs frequently, sometimes to the extent that it becomes an important saleable constituent, though in most cases it remains but a troublesome factor in concentration and not to be considered as other than gangue. The intimate growth of siderite with sphalerite is particularly unfavourable since these two cannot be separated by gravity concentration, and magnetic separation is necessitated.

With these lodes the enclosed fragments of country-rock play a remarkably important part. From the nature of the composite lode it follows that the greater portion of the width is often taken up by rock which has become more or less characteristically altered by the same mineral solutions which subsequently filled the interstices partly with ore. Lindgren, on such processes of alteration, formulated a classification of lodes which is scientifically of great interest. With sandstone or grauwacke this alteration generally consists in the further introduction and crystallization of silica. With slaty rocks the changes are more complex ; the fragments of slaty material, often quite large, may become so altered by the mineral solutions and by pressure as to retain hardly any resemblance to their original condition.

The form taken by simple fissures is also greatly dependent upon the nature of the country-rock ; while for instance in sandstone and grauwacke the fissures are regular and simple, in slate on the other hand they are much split up. In this latter circumstance a veined zone arises, often causing a bulge in the width of the lode. By mountain movement and mineral solution slate fragments may become so changed that they finally consist of innumerable pressure lenses traversed in all directions by veins filled with ore or gangue. In this extreme stage of alteration they represent what is known as lode-slate ;<sup>1</sup> such material is illustrated in Fig. 114.

The mineral-intergrowth is more various in the group of lodes now

<sup>1</sup> *Gangtonschiefer*. See Prefaces to Vols. I. and II.

under consideration than in any other. Sometimes, without apparent reason, the most complete examples of ordinary and concentric crustified structure are found, as in the Oberharz; sometimes the structure is preponderatingly irregularly coarse, as in the lodes of the Berg Uplands; while finally, there are many cases where the different constituents of the lode-filling are so intimately intergrown that they can hardly be distinguished by the naked eye. As was particularly mentioned when describing the various forms, structure has a material influence upon the cost of concentration. With the lead-zinc lodes this is so much the case that in neighbourhoods where clean lead- or clean zinc deposits are worked with profit, other lodes with intimate intergrowth of the two ores may often be unpayable. When discussing structure it was also indicated that beside the primary intergrowth, secondary or pseudo-intergrowth might arise, as for instance when a subsequent re-opening of the lode fissure allowed younger heavy-metal solutions to enter. As previously explained, concentric or cocade ore—illustrated in Fig. 126 and particularly characteristic of lead-zinc deposits—arises when layers of different ores have been deposited around a centre, which may be represented by a rock fragment. In such a structure each layer farther from the centre is younger than one inside and nearer to the centre. A singular case of such concentric ore arises when layers of siderite alternating with others of quartz have been metasomatically replaced by galena or sphalerite, the quartz remaining unaltered. In many cases it may be determined whether primary or secondary concentric ore is present, by observing whether the crystal faces occurring on the outline of a sulphide layer are those of the sulphide present or those of a mineral which has been replaced.

From the foregoing it is seen that with these lodes the different age of the separate portions of the lode-filling can play an important part in their structure. Occasionally several stages of lode-filling may be distinguished which in relation to age may be widely separate.

In the investigation of these lead-silver-zinc lodes the primary and secondary depth-zones are of great importance. Experiences in primary ore are far from numerous, yet mining at Freiberg, the Oberharz, and in the Berg district, indicates that there are certain regularities.<sup>1</sup> For instance, in those few cases where the lodes contain a little tin this is concentrated in the uppermost levels, while the tin-free lead- and zinc sulphides occur below. Such lodes may be said to have a tin gossan. With lead and zinc it has often been remarked that lead represents a shallower primary zone than zinc. In such cases galena is found in greatest quantity near the surface, following which comes a zone of galena and sphalerite which continues

<sup>1</sup> P. Krusch, 'Eine neue Systematik primärer Teufenunterschiede,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1911, p. 129.

into depth, the latter mineral predominating more and more till finally the galena is practically excluded. Such mines in their early days were lead mines, then lead and zinc mines, and finally zinc mines exclusively. This sequence in mineralization should be apparent in the figures of production over a series of years; not however when the figures of the district as a whole are reviewed, but when each mine is considered separately, and when care is taken that in the case of irregular mining or of the exploitation of different deposits by one management, only those portions of the total output are considered which belong to one particular deposit and to known depths.

The siderite zone in lead-zinc mines is particularly interesting. In some cases this mineral is found below the zinc, in what may justifiably be regarded as a third primary zone or, when the upper zone of tin is reckoned, a fourth. It has however been pointed out by Dr. Schulz<sup>1</sup> that with the lodes of the Berg district siderite also occurs in the upper levels, though its presence there has been obscured by the preponderance of galena and sphalerite, compared with which the siderite is unimportant and of little saleable account. Even however should the amount of siderite not increase in depth, it is nevertheless the case that below the zinc zone may follow a zone distinguishable from those above by containing siderite only.

The nature of the country-rock is also often of material influence upon the primary depth-zones. When describing the form of lodes the difference in sandstone and grauwacke on the one hand, and in slate on the other, was remarked. Such difference in form could not have been without influence upon the circulation of the heavy-metal solutions; while, for instance, in the open fissure of the grauwacke these moved unhindered and new metal-liferous material presented itself continually, movement in the shattered zone of the slate was more or less impeded. It is indeed remarkably often the case that in sandstone and grauwacke the mineralization is pronounced, while in slate an impoverishment is experienced. Of this, for example, Denckmann was able to produce evidence in the Ramsbeck district. Surely difference has usually nothing to do with the geological age of the bed; it rests solely upon mechanical factors. From such observations can therefore be taken not to draw conclusions too far-reaching. If for instance one bedded complex consist chiefly of grauwacke, and another, younger or older, chiefly of slate, many an observer might be inclined straight off to hold the difference in age responsible for any difference in mineralization without reflecting that age need have played no part, but that representative character alone might have produced the effect. In view of the cases moreover the opposite experience is met, the ore being typically chiefly in slate and to a less extent in other rocks. The necessary quartz-

<sup>1</sup> Glückauf, 1910.

; such

enter cautiously upon generalizations and to treat every district individually is therefore apparent. When forming conclusions relative to the mineralization in depth or along the continuation of the strike, these primary depth-zones are very important.

The secondary depth-zones with the lead-silver-zinc lodes, though these were discussed when describing the particular ores,<sup>1</sup> demand here some further description. Galena and sphalerite in the oxidation zone become altered to the well-known and corresponding oxides. In the cementation zone, however, there is no enrichment either of lead or zinc, presumably because these two sulphides are already richer in metal than any other combination met in nature. The cementation zone is distinguished from the primary zone rather by the amount of precious metal present as native metal upon the fractures and surfaces of the sulphides, such precious metal being usually but sparingly distributed in the primary zone. The depth-zones therefore in so far as they relate to the lead- and zinc ores themselves, are immaterial, and only merit consideration in connection with the silver content.

The fact that with these lodes the three metals, lead, silver, and zinc, are often most closely associated, has a great influence upon the market in these metals. Should, for instance, silver be in greater demand, greater production to meet this demand is only possible when lead and zinc are also produced. Similar circumstances likewise attend the production of the other two metals. While therefore with the more isolated metals such as platinum, gold, tin, and copper, an effective regulation of production is possible, in respect of lead, zinc, and silver, the miner and metallurgist are to some extent helpless.

The silver content in the primary ore varies greatly, though in general it may be said that it maintains an attachment to lead rather than to zinc. While galena containing 500 grm. of silver per ton is quite common, sphalerite usually contains less than 50 grm., though up to these limits all possible variations are found. As the silver is an admixed constituent secondary ores richest in this metal are mostly, though not always, close-ore and compact, while those which contain little or no silver are often Berg-diy crystalline. This difference is more noticeable with galena than with sphalerite, doubtless because the former is more argentiferous than the latter. In applying this rule care must be taken to be certain that the below primary, since in the cementation zone the coarsely-crystalline it has, is just as argentiferous as the finely-crystalline, seeing that such is when it precipitated the silver was already crystallized. The silver content of the cementation ore is extremely variable: it may indeed be

While under the microscope no native silver is usually to be observed in primary galena or sphalerite, with the richly argentiferous cementation ore on the other hand, it is usually seen as a fine coating or film upon the numerous cleavage-planes of both the galena and the sphalerite.

According to the predominant gangue, ore, or ores, the old lead-silver-zinc lodes, like the young gold-silver-lead lodes, may be divided into several subdivisions, thus :

1. Calcite - silver lodes, with calcite predominating but also with quartz, barite, fluorite, etc., and silver minerals. With these lodes galena and sphalerite are either absent or are but sparingly present.

2. Carbonate lead lodes, with calcite or dolomite, and occasionally rhodochrosite, quartz, etc. In these galena and sphalerite occur more particularly, silver minerals being less common.

3. Barite-lead-silver lodes, with barite, quartz, calcite, fluorite, and galena and sphalerite, often also with a small amount of silver mineral.

4. Quartz - silver lodes, with quartz chiefly, and silver minerals, a little galena, sphalerite, etc.

5. Sulphide or sulphide quartz-lead lodes, with quartz as most important gangue, and galena, sphalerite, and different sulphides. With these lodes silver minerals are either absent or but sparingly present.

6. Siderite lodes, with much siderite and quartz as gangue, and with galena, sphalerite, etc.

7. Silver-cobalt lodes, with silver minerals, arsenical cobalt and nickel minerals, galena and sphalerite more seldom. With some of these the occurrence of native bismuth is characteristic, with others that of uranium. These lodes therefore form a link with those next to be defined.

8. Silver-cobalt-uranium and cobalt-uranium lodes.

Recent investigation has shown that the above grouping cannot always be applied, as all possible gradations between the different subdivisions may occur, and the primary depth-zones are sufficiently pronounced that the present surface may coincide with the most varied primary ore. Similar mineralogical composition does not necessarily postulate similar age and genesis.

The best examples of the calcite-silver lodes are those at Kongsberg and St. Andreasberg. The most important representatives of the carbonate lead lodes are probably the dolomite-lead lodes at Freiberg wherein the silver minerals are comparatively speaking strongly represented; to this group belong also many of the Clausthal lodes. The barite-lead-silver lodes and the quartz-silver lodes are also typically developed at Freiberg. Generally speaking however, these old quartz-silver lodes are fairly scarce, while among the young Tertiary lodes such

lodes predominate. It is probable that this relation between these two groups is one dependent upon primary variations in depth on a large scale. As was indicated when describing the Tertiary lodes, silver is chiefly deposited in the neighbourhood of the surface, while in greater depth galena and sphalerite often predominate. That being so, and it being also the case that the upper zone of the old lodes has generally been removed by erosion, it happens to-day that the deposit now being worked represents that of original great primary depth. Since such depth in this connection is the province of the sulphides, the probability of discovering old quartz lodes with silver minerals is small.

The sulphide or sulphide quartz-lead lodes are the most common. With these, quartz is the prevailing gangue, while carbonates, barite, fluorite, etc., are either completely absent or but poorly represented. Beside galena and sphalerite, which occur in varying relation to one another, much pyrite and arsenopyrite also are found, some chalcopyrite, and numerous other sulphides. In some cases tetrahedrite, pyrrargyrite, proustite, and other silver minerals occur, these being practically absent from other lodes. Among the many sub-groups at Freiberg the sulphide lead lodes are undoubtedly the most important, such being also well represented in the other Saxon mining districts. It may indeed be said that the greater number of the lodes of the world belong to the lead-zinc group, and that among these the sulphide lead lodes constitute the greatest percentage.

In many of the lodes hitherto described siderite is completely absent, while in many others it is present in very small amount; in but few cases is it so abundantly present that the occurrence may be described as a siderite lead-zinc deposit. Such deposits are more particularly found in the Rhenish Schiefergebirge. Siderite as gangue is still more rare with the Tertiary deposits, though cases of its occurrence with these are known, as for example at Mazarron and Cartagena.

With most of these lodes nickel and cobalt are completely absent, a fact which becomes evident upon smelting, since in the furnace products both these metals are either absent or only present as traces. With some of these lodes, on the other hand, cobalt and nickel are more abundant and the passage is thus prepared to the silver-cobalt lodes. With these latter a large number of subdivisions might be formulated. Generally the amount of cobalt is larger than that of nickel, this being also the case with the arsenical cobalt-nickel lodes. With some, as with those at Annaberg in Saxony and Temiskaming in Canada, bismuth is practically absent; with others on the other hand, as with those at Schneeberg, native bismuth and bismuth minerals are so abundant that a separate silver-cobalt-bismuth or cobalt-bismuth subdivision has been set apart



for them, this subdivision receiving further mention when describing the Upper Erzgebirge and the Temiskaming districts.

The old silver-lead-zinc lodes are in general characterized by their freedom from gold or by their poverty in that precious metal. Though of little importance, an exception to this is provided by some lodes belonging to the old quartz- and sulphide quartz-lead subdivisions, as for instance the Bergmannstrost lode in Lower Silesia where arsenopyrite and chalcopyrite are abundantly present, and the lodes in the district of Svenningdal in northern Norway which greatly resemble those of the sulphide lead subdivision of Freiberg. The concentrates from the quartz-silver lodes at Freiberg contain 0.5 to 8 grm. of gold per ton.

With some of these lodes quicksilver occurs in minimal amounts, as for instance at Kongsberg, where the native silver is remarkable for a small quicksilver content. Cinnabar also has been reported as a mineralogical curiosity in some lodes; at Clausthal it occurs in minute amounts together with native quicksilver and seleniferous quicksilver. Lodes wherein the silver minerals are accompanied by quicksilver-tetrahedrite occur at some places,<sup>1</sup> as for instance at Brixlegg and Schwaz in the Tyrol, at places in Bosnia, etc. Such occurrences in general, however, are rare and of little importance, so that it may be said that a sharp line exists between the lead-silver-zinc lodes and the quicksilver lodes proper.

With most of the lead-silver-zinc lodes tin is so completely lacking that its presence may not even be detected in the furnace products from silver works. Exceptionally, it is found in small amounts at Příbram<sup>2</sup> and in the sulphide quartz-lead lodes at Freiberg.<sup>3</sup> The mineral associates of tin—wolframite and scheelite—are found now and then as mineralogical rarities in some lodes.<sup>4</sup> The line between the tin lodes and the lead-silver-zinc lodes is however not only sharp in relation to the minerals contained but also in regard to the country-rock.<sup>5</sup> This sharp separation between the two does not however exclude the possibility that both kinds of lode may occur in the same district. Such is indeed the case not only in Cornwall but also in the Erzgebirge.<sup>6</sup> The tin lodes then are the older, while the various lead-silver-zinc lodes present, became formed during the later periods of a long protracted mineralization.

Pyrite is present with all these lodes. With some, such as those at Kongsberg and St. Andreasberg, pyrrhotite occurs, in part well crystallized. Specularite has been found as a mineralogical curiosity, while magnetite appears to be completely absent. The iron minerals are more particularly well represented in the sulphide lead lodes, though even these usually carry

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 457.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 423.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 704.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, p. 423.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 674.

<sup>6</sup> *Ante*, pp. 425, 434.

more lead and zinc than iron. Chalcopyrite, though generally playing quite a subordinate part, is hardly ever absent; its occurrence is more fully discussed when describing the copper lodes.

Concerning the relation of silver to lead, at Kongsberg silver is present to approximately double the amount of lead; with most of these silver lodes however, one part of silver is found to 2-10 parts of lead.<sup>1</sup> From this high ratio all gradations exist to lead lodes with but little silver. According to statistics collected over a period of almost fifty years, in the Freiberg district where the sulphide lead lodes relatively poor in silver are the most common, the ore produced showed an average of one part of silver to 105-175 parts of lead. The sulphide lead lodes by themselves probably carry 250-300 times as much lead as silver, and with these must be reckoned others still poorer in silver, in which for instance the amount of lead reaches as much as 1000 times that of the silver. It is worthy of remark however that the galena is very seldom entirely free from silver, and that the silver content of the lead lodes is generally much higher than that of the metasomatic lead deposits.

In these lodes sphalerite and galena always occur together, the latter being generally more abundant, though<sup>2</sup> this relation is often reversed in depth.

With some of these lodes boron silicates occur to a small extent. In the calcite-silver lodes at Kongsberg, for instance, some axinite is found, and in those at St. Andreasberg, some datolite. Tourmaline on the other hand appears to be absent. Occasionally, chlorite, adularia, albite, epidote, tremolite, and other silicates, occur. Rhodonite and rhodochrosite are at times abundant, the former more particularly with the silver lodes proper. Witherite and strontianite are rare, barite is notoriously common, while the barium zeolite, harmotome, is characteristic of some lodes. Apatite has been found in some of the old lead-silver-zinc lodes in minimal amounts and as a great rarity; with most deposits it is completely absent. In this feature also the difference between the lead-silver-zinc lodes on the one side, and the tin lodes on the other, is marked. The phosphoric acid occurring in the pyromorphite and other phosphates of the oxidation zone, is derived from the country-rock. Compounds of selenium and tellurium occur occasionally as mineralogical curiosities.

The old lead-silver-zinc lodes occur more particularly in the older geological formations up to and including the Culm. In the Upper Carboniferous they are already less frequent, while in the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous, occurrences are isolated. In the Tertiary their place is taken by the lodes of the young group. The age of the country-rock however puts but the lower limit to the age of the lodes. As previously explained,<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 676.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 653.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 67.

the determination of the age of the lode-filling needs the most careful investigation. The different subdivisions show themselves in general to be independent of the petrography of the country-rock. All those at Freiberg with their varied filling occur in the same gneiss. Further, the calcite-silver lodes at Kongsberg have for their country-rock mica- and hornblende-schist, those at St. Andreasberg, Devonian silica-schist and grauwacke, while those at Silver Islet have Algonkian schist and gabbro. The barite-lead lodes occur at Freiberg, in gneiss; at Sarraabus in Sardinia, in clay-slate and granite; and at Bleiberg, in Triassic limestone. The sulphide quartz-lead lodes at Freiberg and Kuttenberg traverse gneiss; at Linares and La Touche, granite; and at Svenningdal,<sup>1</sup> limestone with narrow intercalated thicknesses of mica-schist.

The lodes are often found in areas of considerable tectonic disturbance, and the fissures in many cases are fault planes along which considerable movement has taken place. Most of the mining fields lie in the immediate neighbourhood of eruptive rocks or actually within such rocks. Dalmer, for instance, has established the local connection of the lode districts of the Erzgebirge with the granite. Nevertheless, just as with the Tertiary gold-silver lodes, there is no genetic dependence upon any particular eruptive. There is rather a general genetic association between eruptivity and mineralization, the lodes having resulted from metalliferous solutions which appeared as the consequent phenomena of eruptive activity.

Many lodes have been developed to considerable depth below the present surface: Příbram for instance to 1100 m., Kongsberg to 900 m., Freiberg to 700 m., Clausthal to 900 m., and St. Andreasberg to about 820 metres. If to these depths figures be added to represent the erosion such lodes have suffered—which on account of their great geological age is considerable—it may be reckoned that the lead-zinc lodes are known to a depth of some 4 km. below the surface as it existed at the time of their mineralization.

Considering that the lode-filling in general is independent of the mineralogical nature of the country-rock, that the lodes are mostly connected with tectonic disturbances, that they occur in the neighbourhood of eruptive rocks, and that they carry ore assuredly to a depth of at least 4 km. from the original surface, the conclusion is justified that the material of the silver-lead-zinc lodes was derived from depth. In this matter, as also in respect to the chemical nature of the solutions, the discussion given in connection with the Tertiary lodes applies here also. It is particularly the case with this group of lodes that ore-shoots are found in the neighbourhood of lode intersections. In other cases the ore is more particularly concentrated where the lode fissure crosses certain rocks, the nature of the country-rock having obviously exerted an influence upon the filling.

<sup>1</sup> J. H. L. Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, pp. 1-8.

The economic importance of these old lead-silver-zinc lodes is dealt with elsewhere. It is sufficient here to state that of late years they have yielded some 15 per cent of the world's production of silver,<sup>1</sup> some 33 per cent that of lead, and some 11-14 per cent that of zinc.

## THE SILVER DEPOSIT AT KONGSBERG, NORWAY

### LITERATURE

TH. KJERULF and T. DAHL. 'Kongsbergs Erzdistrikt,' *Nyt Mag. f. Naturw.* XI., 1861.—C. F. ANDRESEN. 'Über die Gangformationen zu Kongsberg,' *Verhandl. d. 10. Sitz. d. skandin. Naturforscher*, 1868.—TH. HJORTDAHL. 'Über güldiges Silber zu Kongsberg,' *Nyt Mag. f. Naturw.* XVI., 1869.—G. ROLLAND. 'Mémoire sur la géologie de Kongsberg,' *Ann. d. Mines, Paris, Sér. 7, XI.*, 1877.—A. HELLAND. 'Über den Betrieb des Kongsberg-Silberwerkes,' *Arch. f. Mathem. und Naturw.* X., 1886.—THS. MÜNSTER. 'Über die Kongsberger Mineralien,' *Nyt Mag. f. Naturw.* XXXII., 1892.—CHR. A. MÜNSTER. 'Über die Zusammensetzung des Kongsberger Silbers und über einen Sekundärprozess bei seiner Bildung,' *Nyt Mag. f. Naturw.* XXXII., 1892; 'Kongsberg-Erzdistrikt,' *Ges. d. Wiss. Christiania*, 1894, I.—P. KRUSCH. 'Das Kongsberger Erzrevier,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1896.—J. H. L. VOGT. 'Über die Bildung des gediegenen Silbers, besonders des Kongsberger Silbers durch Sekundärprozesse aus Silberglanz, etc., und ein Versuch zur Erklärung der Edelheit der Kongsberger Gänge an den Fahlbändkreuzen,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1899. Government Commission Reports for 1835, 1865, 1885, and 1903.—Private information from C. BUGGE, taken from a monograph upon the Kongsberg field to be published later.

Kongsberg, some 80 km. west of Christiania, is situated in an Archaean area which, as illustrated in Fig. 65, consists chiefly of gneiss and granite-gneiss, different gabbro rocks and hornblende-schists, several mica- and chlorite-schists, etc. The rock known formerly as the grey Kongsberg gneiss is in reality a foliated granite, more particularly a soda granite; at several other places, in addition, there is a red foliated granite rich in microcline. Among the gabbros, olivine-gabbro with ophitic structure—olivine-hyperite—normal gabbro, and norite, are represented. Other varieties worthy of mention are uralite-gabbro, banded-gabbro, banded quartz-gabbro and gabbro-schist, and amphibolite and amphibolite-schist. The mica- and chlorite-schists occur rather sparingly, while of still less extent are the many small diabase- and diabase-porphyrite dykes.

The prevailing strike of the crystalline schists is N. 10° W. with a dip generally 70°-80° to the east. These schists are often remarkable for the occurrence within them of extremely fine layers of pyrrhotite, pyrite, and some chalcopyrite, this being particularly the case with the hornblende-, mica-, and chlorite-schists, but also with the foliated and highly schistose granite. This occurrence of pyritic layers in crystalline schists constitutes the Kongsberg fahlbands. The amount of such sulphides is low, being generally only one or two per cent, though in places it may be somewhat

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 649.

higher. The distribution and extent of these fahlbands may be seen from the afore-mentioned Fig. 65 as well as from Fig. 330, the former however being now somewhat out of date. Sulphides may also occasionally be observed in the relatively but little foliated grey granite, from which circumstance together with the fact that sulphide veins often cross the foliation of the granite, Vogt came to the conclusion that the sulphide layers of the fahlbands are intrusive.<sup>1</sup>

The Kongsberg lodes are in greater part calcite lodes carrying native

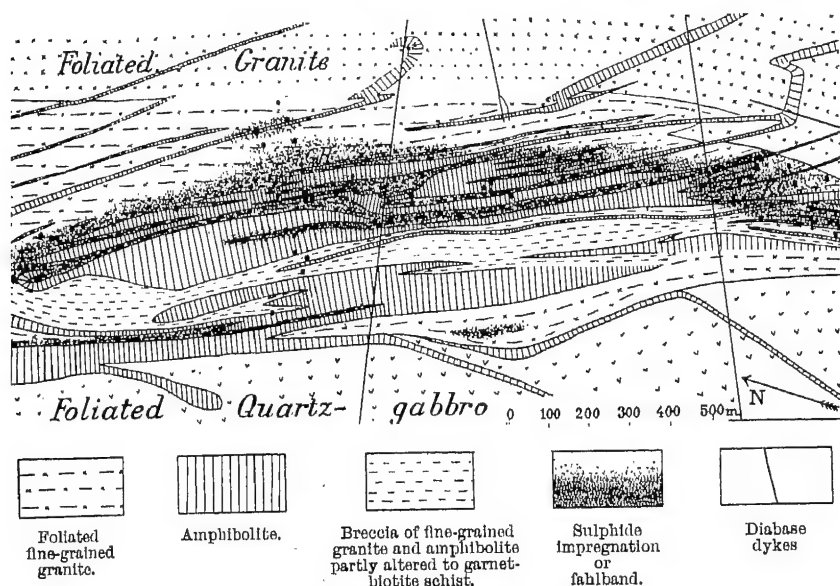


FIG. 330.—Geological map of a portion of the Overberget. C. Bugge.

KG, Kongsens mine; GH, Gottes Hilfe-in-der-Not mine.

silver; they cut across the schist and within the fahlbands are metalliferous. By far the most important ore is native silver, which occurs in the form of wire, moss, or plates, and quite exceptionally in crystals. Large masses have occasionally been found, the largest weighing as much as 500 kg. Sometimes the silver is remarkable for a small but variable quicksilver content, which rarely reaches as much as 2 per cent and generally is below 0.5 per cent. The gold content of this silver is remarkably low, being in the majority of cases only 0.002–0.005 per cent. Golden silver has been found as a mineralogical curiosity in certain separate quartz lodes. With the native silver, argentite occurs, sometimes in masses up to 100 kg. in weight, though altogether responsible for but one or two per cent of the

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 340.

total output. It is seldom that stretches of any length are encountered where argentite is preponderatingly present and native silver subordinate, or even sections where both are present in approximately equal amount. Pyrargyrite and proustite are great rarities, and occurrences of other silver minerals such as stephanite are isolated. Sphalerite, galena poor in silver, chalcopyrite, pyrite, and pyrrhotite, occur in very small amount.

The native silver at Kongsberg is in Vogt's opinion in greater part not of primary origin but has arisen secondarily from argentite, or exceptionally from pyrargyrite and proustite. It is often found as wires or horns sprouting from argentite, these wires or horns having sometimes small balls of argentite at the end, as illustrated in Fig. 140. As pointed out by G. Bischof<sup>1</sup> and other authorities, such a manner of occurrence may only be explained by secondary processes, as for instance by the action of oxygen, hydrogen, or water-vapour, etc., upon heated argentite, according to the formula<sup>2</sup>  $3\text{Ag}_2\text{S} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} = 6\text{Ag} + 2\text{H}_2\text{S} + \text{SO}_2$ . In close proximity to the silver it is not uncommon to find some carbon, the presence of which is doubtless due to a reduction by carburetted hydrogen, thus,  $2\text{Ag}_2\text{S} + \text{CH}_4 = 4\text{Ag} + 2\text{H}_2\text{S} + \text{C}$ .<sup>3</sup> Most of the wire silver, it is true, shows no trace of argentite; its twisted, grooved, and tapering form is however identical with other similar wires where a derivation from argentite can be definitely established. According to Vogt the two habits are of analogous formation, the difference being that the argentite in one case was partly, and in the other case completely decomposed, this decomposition taking place chiefly before, but also during the deposition of the oldest generation of calcite.

The most important gangue-mineral is calcite, after which come fluorite and quartz, the former often occurring in beautiful crystals. Barite, axinite, adularia, albite, chlorite, hornblende-asbestos, and prehnite are also seen, as well as different zeolites, such as apophyllite, desmine, stilbite, harmotome, and laumontite. In addition, anthracite—an analysis of which by Helland showed 95·5 per cent carbon, 1·9 per cent hydrogen and 2·2 per cent oxygen—often occurs, being regarded as favourable to the silver content. The calcite frequently occurs in several generations, fluorite and quartz as a rule only in two generations.

The sequence in age is often as follows: after a first generation of quartz follow most of the sulphides, including the greater portion of the argentite; with these sulphides the older calcite is approximately contemporaneous; then come fluorite and adularia, albite and barite, and different carbonates; and finally the zeolites, the pyrite, and the youngest

<sup>1</sup> *Poggendorfs Ann.* 60, 1843.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 131.

<sup>3</sup> Höfer, 'Erdölstudien,' *Wiener Akad. Verh.*, 1902.

of grey foliated granite 10 km. long and 1–1.5 km. wide.<sup>1</sup> In Fig. 65 this granite is entered as the 'Middlebergsband.' At Overberget the fahlband zone attains a width of 150–300 m., and at Unterberget 100–200 m., this width being made up of an alternation of mica-, chlorite-, and hornblende-schists, with amphibolite and highly foliated granite or gneiss-granite. In this total width, as illustrated in Fig. 330, usually only some of the bands carry sulphides. The horizontal extension of the silver content along each separate lode is limited; in the richest portions of the Kongens mine it is 80–95 m. at the most; while in other cases it is only 20–40 m., or even 10–20 metres. Across one and the same fahlband the silver content varies considerably. No definite rule concerning its distribution may be formulated, though, as illustrated in Fig. 331, the largest amounts of silver occur at the intersection with certain of the sulphide beds. No fixed relation between the sulphide content of a fahlband and the silver content in the lode has been established in general, nor can it be said at Kongsberg that any enrichment occurs at lode intersections or junctions.

According to Bugge, a rapid alternation in the composition of the rocks constituting the fahlband zone is favourable to the silver content. This author calls attention to the fact that the best lodes appear in the neighbourhood of the narrow diabase- and diabase-porphyrite dykes which run approximately parallel to the lodes. The Kongsberg lodes are younger than the crystalline schists and the above-mentioned dykes. Bugge has recently shown that these latter are closely associated with the Devonian eruptives of the Christiania district, which district, as is well known, is bounded by powerful faults along which in several places ore has been found.<sup>2</sup> It is therefore possible or even probable that the formation of the Kongsberg lodes is connected with the downthrow of the Christiania district. The distance from the most southerly mine at Kongsberg to the Silurian beds of the Christiania district does not reach 1 kilometre.

The erosion these lodes have suffered since their formation may, according to Vogt, amount to 3 km. of vertical height. The deepest mine has reached a depth of 900 metres. On these figures deposition of ore took place at a depth of some 4 km. below the surface at the time of deposition.

The Kongsberg lodes are normal lodes which, in the occurrence of calcite, fluorite, pyrrhotite, axinite, and the zeolites, and also in the noble character of the ore carried, are closely related to those at St. Andreasberg in the Oberharz. The silver ore being accompanied particularly by, and apparently contemporaneous with the calcite, can only have been

<sup>1</sup> Vogt's Map, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> J. H. L. Vogt, 'Über die Erzgänge zu Traag in Bamle, Norwegen,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1907.

The richest ore-body in the district, illustrated in Fig. 331, occurs in the Kongens mine. From this, during the period 1830-1890 and between depths of 230 m. and 600 m. from the surface, 274,313 kg. of silver were produced from an area of about 29,802 sq. m. on the lode plane, or an average of 9-10 kg. of silver per square metre. The richest portion actually yielded 23,000 kg. of silver from 1200 sq. m. on the lode plane, or roughly 20 kg. per square metre. In depth this rich ore-shoot diminished in size, eventually pinching out at 750-800 metres. Latterly, a new and very rich ore-shoot has been developed in the Samuel mine at Unterberget. At present four mines are being worked at Overberget and one at Unterberget, these having together an annual output of about 8000 kg. of silver, and employing about 300 men. Since the heavy drop in the price of silver in 1892-1893 the production has practically only covered the cost, the losses of some years being made good by the small profits of others. Approximately three-quarters of the production is won from ore containing roughly 70 per cent of silver, such ore going direct to the smelter. The remainder is at present won by the cyanidation of poor concentrate.

#### THE OCCURRENCE OF SILVER AT TEMISKAMING, CANADA

##### LITERATURE

WILLET. G. MILLER. 'The Cobalt-Nickel Arsenides and Silver Deposits of Temiskaming,' Report, Bureau of Mines of Ontario, Toronto, 1905, II.; 1907, II.—Visit to Cobalt and Sudbury of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, August 1909; Toronto, 1909.—W. CAMPBELL and C. W. KNIGHT. The Paragenesis of the Cobalt-Nickel Arsenides and Silver Deposits of Temiskaming, 1907.

In this district, lodes carrying silver associated particularly with cobalt were discovered in 1903 during the construction of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario railroad. These occur on the northern shore of Temiskaming Lake, at the boundary of Ontario and Quebec, about 150 km. north-east of Sudbury.<sup>1</sup> The old rocks of this district form the following sequence: as oldest, the Keewatin beds consisting of diabase, granite-porphry, granite, etc.; then at least 500 feet of almost horizontal conglomerates, breccias, grauwackes, and slates of the Lower Huronian; next the Middle Huronian with its conglomerates, quartzites, etc.; and finally, the thick diabase flows and intrusions of the Upper Huronian. The lodes are steep in dip and considerable in number. They occur chiefly in the conglomerates and grauwackes of the Lower Huronian, but few being found either in the Keewatin beds beneath, or in the Upper Huronian diabase above. By the year 1909 an area of about

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 289.



20 sq. km. situated or centred around the new town of Cobalt had become recognized as metalliferous. The lodes on an average are but 10-16 cm. wide, the extreme variation being from the thickness of a knife blade to somewhat more than half a metre. The filling consists of rich solid ore with a little calcite and quartz as gangue.

The most important ore-minerals are native silver, with some native bismuth and graphite; the arsenides, smaltite, cobaltite, chloanthite, domeykite,  $\text{Cu}_3\text{As}$ , and to a less extent niccolite; while the antimonide dyscrasite,  $\text{Ag}_3\text{Sb}$ , also is common. The sulpho-salts pyrargyrite, proustite, and tetrahedrite are subordinate, as also are the sulphides argentite, millerite, galena, pyrite, sphalerite, and bornite; the arsenates erythrite and annabergite, on the other hand, near the outcrop occur quite plentifully. Analyses of two parcels of hand-sorted ore, No. I. of 354 tons and No. II. of 537 tons, are as follows:

	I.	II.
Silver . . .	4.80 per cent.	4.16 per cent.
Cobalt . . .	8.26 "	6.89 "
Nickel . . .	4.74 "	3.09 "
Arsenio . . .	34.61 "	30.91 "

These lodes are accordingly distinguished by the combination of silver, cobalt, nickel, and arsenic, the cobalt far exceeding the nickel in amount. In addition, some antimony and bismuth are found. Sulphur is present to a less extent than arsenic.

Operations so far have been confined to the neighbourhood of the surface, where native silver is the principal ore and where, in addition, dyscrasite, pyrargyrite, proustite, argentite, etc., are common. Native silver often occurs in large plates or slabs, the heaviest so far discovered weighing 744 kg., of which some 90 per cent was silver. It is probable that the native silver at Temiskaming has been formed by secondary processes.

Campbell and Knight, as the result of microscopic investigation of the fine-grained and compact ore, established the following sequence in age, beginning from the oldest:

1. Cobaltite and chloanthite.
2. Niccolite.
3. Calcite.
4. Argentite.
5. Native silver.
6. Decomposition products, such as erythrite, annabergite, etc.

Although the pre-Glacial weathered zone was in greater part removed during the Glacial period, the lode-outcrops may still be recognized by a

considerable amount of bright-coloured cobalt- and nickel arsenates, and by asbolane. In consequence of the afore-mentioned removal by ice and the small amount of sulphides present in the ore, the oxidation zone as found to-day is but a few feet deep.

Concerning the behaviour of these lodes in depth, owing to the short life of the industry but few observations have been possible. No experience is available to show how these lodes, most of which occur in the relatively thin Lower Huronian, will comport themselves in the diabase of the Keewatin below. From the relative ages of the various minerals present and judging from the description of the deposits, it appears highly probable that at present a very rich cementation zone is being worked, and that only with the greatest caution may any conclusions respecting the silver content in depth be hazarded. According to Miller, a genetic connection between the lodes and the late Huronian diabase eruptions exists, in so far that the mineral solutions rising from depth and having the basic magma reservoirs as their ultimate source, are presumably the last echoes of that eruptive activity.

The economic significance of the Temiskaming or Cobalt district may be gathered from the following figures :

	Number of Mines.	Production.				Total Value in Dollars.
		Silver.	Cobalt.	Nickel.	Arsenic.	
		Oz.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
1904	4	206,875	16	14	72	136,217
1905	16	2,451,356	118	75	549	1,473,196
1906	17	5,401,766	321	160	1,440	3,764,113
1907	28	10,023,311	739	370	2,958	6,301,095
1908	30	19,437,875	1224	612	3,672	9,284,869
1909	31	25,897,825	1533	766	4,204	12,617,580
1910	41	30,645,181	1098	604	4,897	15,603,455
Totals	167	94,464,189	5049	2601	17,891	49,180,525

Of the total value given in this table, silver is responsible for \$48,368,333, this being chiefly native silver. About 2 per cent of the value is thus left to be accounted for by the remaining metals. These figures indicate how essentially this is a silver field. Seven years after starting it had produced roughly 2900 tons of silver, which is more than Freiberg produced during the whole of the nineteenth century, or more than half the total Freiberg or the total Comstock production. According to an estimate of the United States Mint the world's production of silver in 1910 was 217.8 million ounces. Of this amount Temiskaming produced roughly 14 per cent. The district is without doubt the richest in silver of any yet

## THE LODES OF THE ERZGEBIRGE

## THE FREIBERG DISTRICT

## LITERATURE

J. F. W. v. CHARPENTIER. *Mineral. Geographie der chursächsischen Lande*, 1778.—H. MÜLLER. 'Die Erzlagerstätten nördlich und nordwestlich von Freiberg,' *Cotta's Gangstudien*, I. p. 101, 1847.—W. VOGELGESANG. 'Die Erzlagerstätten südlich und süd-östlich von Freiberg,' *Cotta's Gangstudien*, II. p. 19, 1848.—H. MÜLLER and B. R. FÖRSTER. *Gangstudien aus dem Freiburger Revier*. Freiberg, 1869.—H. MÜLLER. *Die Freiburger Erzlagerstätten in Freibergs Berg- und Hüttenwesen*, II. Edit., 1893, p. 32; *Die Erzgänge des Freiburger Bergreviers*. Monograph of the Geological Survey of Saxony, Leipzig, 1901.—C. GÄBERT. 'Die geologischen Verhältnisse des Erzgebirges' in 'Das Erzgebirge' by Prof. Dr. ZEMMICH and Dr. C. GÄBERT, *Landschaftsbilder aus dem Königreich Sachsen*, Vol. II., 1911.

The Freiberg district, as indicated in Figs. 332 and 333, is a large one, including not only the immediate surroundings of Freiberg and Brand, but also the occurrences at Oederan, Bräunsdorf, Bieberstein-Nossen, Oberreinsberg, Dittmannsdorf, etc. Tectonically it represents a dome consisting of the two principal divisions of the Erzgebirge gneiss, these being the older or grey gneiss, which is a biotite-gneiss, and the younger or red gneiss, a muscovite-gneiss.

The deepest horizons of the grey gneiss consist of the Freiberg biotite-gneiss, a coarse-scaled and markedly jointed rock, which occupies the outlying surroundings of Freiberg and extends over Dippoldiswalde and Glashütte to Nollendorf and Graupen. It is an eruptive gneiss which merges into a rock of perfect granitic structure with foreign inclusions. Towards its upper horizons this old gneiss becomes fine-scaled, while in its uppermost section the occurrence of bedded dykes of typical augengneiss is noteworthy.

The younger or red gneiss in its main occurrence is also dome-shaped, though in addition it forms persistent bed-like or flat lenticular masses which are found both in the deepest horizons exposed around Freiberg, as well as in the mica-schist formation, which is materially younger. It is regarded as a laccolith or bed-like intrusion of eruptive character.

In the upper portions of the Erzgebirge gneiss formation numerous bed-like intercalations of such sediments as limestone, grauwacke, conglomerate, quartzite, mica-schist, phyllite-like rock, and garnet-mica rock, occur between the eruptive members. These intercalations are to be regarded as detached patches of the slate formation which formerly, as indicated in Fig. 334, completely covered the gneiss.

Against this dome of eruptive gneiss lie sedimentary rocks. These in the neighbourhood of the granite are highly altered to mica-schist and garnet-mica rock, into which gneissic material, represented by gneiss and

gneissic mica-schist, was injected. Such rocks constitute the inner contact

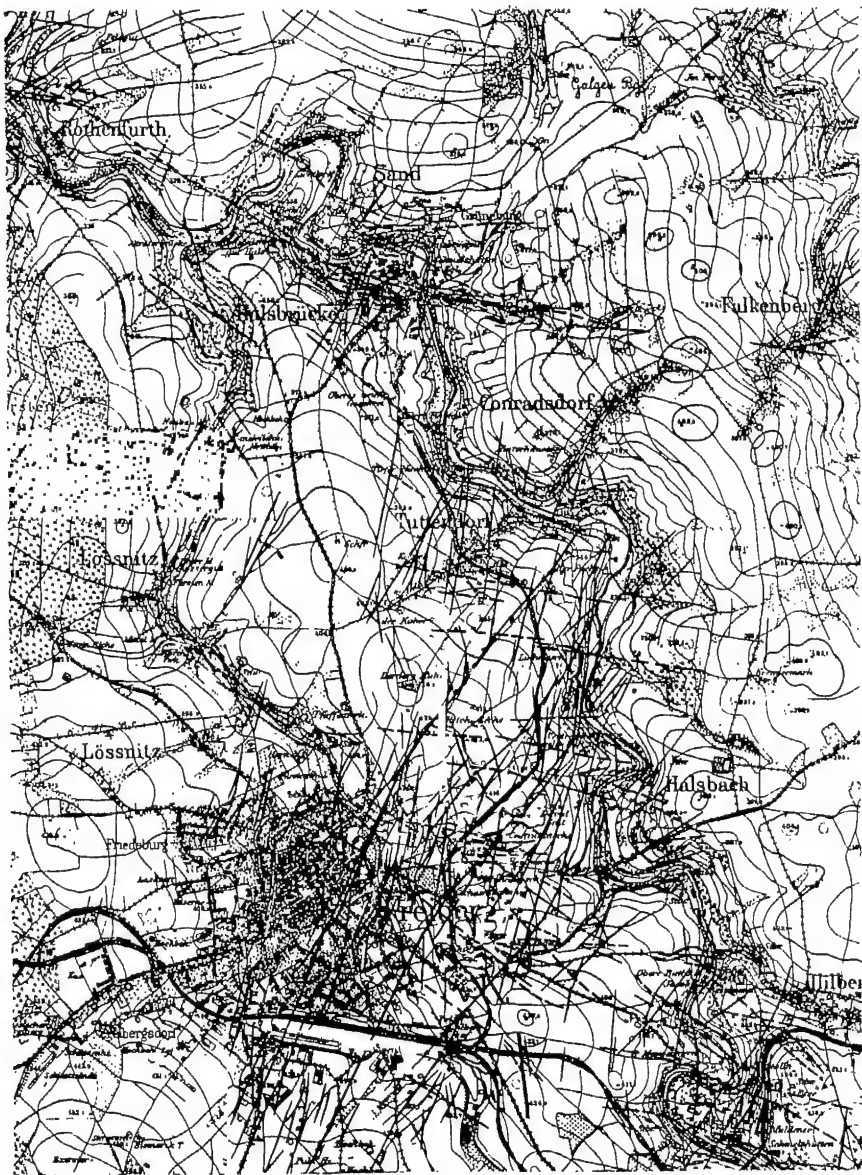


FIG. 332.—Map of the Freiberg lode district, neighbourhood of Freiberg.

zone. Resting on this inner zone comes the outer contact zone of quartz-

and albite-phyllites, these towards the hanging-wall merging into micaceous



FIG. 333.—Map of the Freiberg lode district, neighbourhood of Brand.

phyllite. Finally, come the unaltered rocks, which are but slightly meta-

3. Silver- or dolomite-lead lodes. Ore: argentiferous galena, sphalerite, pyrrargyrite, proustite, native silver, pyrite, tetrahedrite, and argentite. Gangue: quartz, dolomite, and rhodochrosite.

4. Copper lodes. Ore: pyrite, chalcopyrite, chalcocite, and bornite. Gangue: quartz.

To this older system the tin lodes, described previously,<sup>1</sup> belong; these in the Freiberg district are but few in number and without economic importance.

## (II.) The younger system—

1. The barite-lead-silver lodes. Ore: galena, chalcopyrite, pyrite, marcasite, sphalerite, wurzite, and a little bournonite. Gangue: barite, fluorite, quartz, and hornstone.

2. Iron-manganese lodes. Ore: either hæmatite and specularite, or limonite, yellow iron ore and psilomelane. Gangue: quartz in the former case; barite and clay in the latter.

Concerning strike, there are broadly speaking two main directions; namely, a north-north-easterly, maintained by the majority of the sulphide lead- and quartz-silver lodes; and a west-north-westerly, maintained by most of the barite-lead lodes. The silver-lead lodes strike indifferently in both these two directions.

It would appear that the silver was associated rather with the grey gneiss than with any other feature, and that the lodes become poorer or impoverished upon entering the red gneiss or mica-schist.

The quartz-silver lodes are found within an area about 22 km. long, extending from Oederan to Nossen. In width they vary from 0.1 m. to 1 m.; in strike some of them, as for instance the Neue-Hoffnung-Gottes and Alte-Hoffnung-Gottes lodes, may be followed for several kilometres; while in depth some have been proved for 460 metres.

The sulphide zinc-lead-copper lodes occur more particularly at Halsbrücke, Berthelsdorf, Brand, and Erbesdorf, in the neighbourhood of Freiberg. To this class belong the Hohe Birke-Stehende, 4 km. long and developed to a depth of 400 m.; and the Rotegrube-Stehende, worked in the Himmelfahrt mine to a depth of 400 m. and followed for a length of 5 km. The galena of these lodes often assays 70–80 per cent of lead with 0.2–0.3 per cent of silver, or 2000–3000 grm. per ton. Chalcopyrite is usually very poorly represented in the zinc-lead lodes. The black sphalerite which is particularly characteristic of these lodes carries, according to Stelzner and Schertel, microscopic inclusions of cassiterite crystals; cassiterite and wolframite have on the rarest occasions even been observed without the aid of the microscope.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 425.

The silver- or dolomite-lead lodes are found more especially around Brand and Erbesdorf; they are generally 600–1000 m. long and have been developed to a maximum depth of 600 metres. The galena of these lodes contains 75–85 per cent of lead, and 0.4–0.6 or more seldom 2 per cent of silver, that is, 4–20 kg. of silver per ton. The pitchblende content of these lodes is noteworthy, though further description of this is deferred.<sup>1</sup> In 1885 the mineral argyrodite was discovered as a rarity in these lodes. It was in this mineral that Cl. Winkler in 1886 discovered the element germanium.

The barite-lead group is represented by about 200 lodes, these occurring in the gneiss and mica-schist around Grossschirma, Halsbrücke, Falkenberg, Hilbersdorf, and Oederan. These lodes vary in width from 0.45 m. to 4 metres. The length may be very considerable, that known as the Halsbrücker-Spat having a length of 8 km. with 400 m. of proved depth. In this group two subdivisions are differentiated, typical barite-lead lodes with chalcopyrite and pyrite; and silver-cobalt lodes, distinguished by the occurrence of silver minerals, though such occurrence is but limited. With these lodes seleniferous and vanadiferous pitchblende ores are found, while the presence of marcasite containing 0.5–0.75 per cent of thallium is also worthy of mention.

The iron group has never been of much importance. It is represented for instance by some lodes in the red gneiss at Niederseifenbach in the upper Flöha valley, and by one in granite-porphyry at Holzhau.

The silver- and the lead lodes at Freiberg, with gangue consisting of barite, dolomite, and rhodochrosite particularly, are characterized by their crusted or combed structure, with which numerous fine crystals of the above-mentioned minerals are associated. With the quartz lodes on the other hand, or where quartz is the most important gangue-mineral, this structure is less prominent.

The richest ore-bodies at Freiberg occur chiefly at lode junctions or intersections.

Unfortunately, owing to the discovery of other large silver deposits, especially those in America, and the consequent drop in the price of the metal, mining in this world-famed district where the more important mines have reached depths of over 600 m., has been reduced to a decadent condition, and there are now but few mines working. The total production has been as follows:

1163–1523	.	.	.	1,958,800 kg.
1524–1835	.	.	.	1,754,983 „
1836–1896	.	.	.	1,529,174 „
Total 1163–1896	..	.	.	5,242,957 kg. worth £45,400,000

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 714.

For the five years 1877-1881 when the industry was still at its zenith, the lode area worked, the ore won, and the payment received for ore, were as follows : <sup>1</sup>

1877-1881.	Lode area worked.	Ore produced.	Payment therefor.
	Sq. m.	Tons.	£
Silver-quartz lodes . . .	52,267	25,631	171,000
Sulphide-lead lodes . . .	264,807	183,521	557,000
Silver-dolomite lodes . . .	69,090	22,143	169,000
Barite-lead-silver lodes . . .	55,269	21,781	110,000
Totals. . .	441,433	253,076	1,007,000

From these figures which represent a yearly average of about £200,000, it is seen that the sulphide-lead lodes were the most important.

The following figures, giving the average production from one square metre of lode area when all the lodes are considered together, will be found interesting :

	Ore won.	Silver contained.	Lead contained.	Payment received.
	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Shillings.
1851-1855	178.4	0.256	31.9	34.9
1866-1870	262.3	0.269	41.4	46.8
1877-1881	283.8	0.277	48.9	45.7
1886-1890	253.4	0.286	30.2	35.1
1891-1895	270.5	0.288	40.5	30.9

These figures show how during the period 1886-1890, and still more during 1891-1895, the drop in the price of silver was felt. In the figures of payment the small amounts received for copper, zinc, arsenic, sulphur, and uranium, are included.

The relation between silver and lead naturally varies greatly in the different groups. According to Stelzner <sup>2</sup> the averages per square metre for one or more years from Beschert-Glück representing the silver-lead lodes, and from Himmelfahrt representing both the barite- and the sulphide-lead lodes, were as follows :

	Silver.	Lead.	Nickel-Cobalt.
	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.
Silver-lead lodes . . . .	0.386	0.75	0.016
Barite lodes . . . .	1.052	2.10	0.089
Sulphide-lead lodes . . . .	0.230	61.45	0.001

The present position of mining at Freiberg is discussed later.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Müller, 1901.

<sup>2</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, pp. 401-402.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 683.



## THE LODES OF THE UPPER ERZGEBIRGE

## LITERATURE

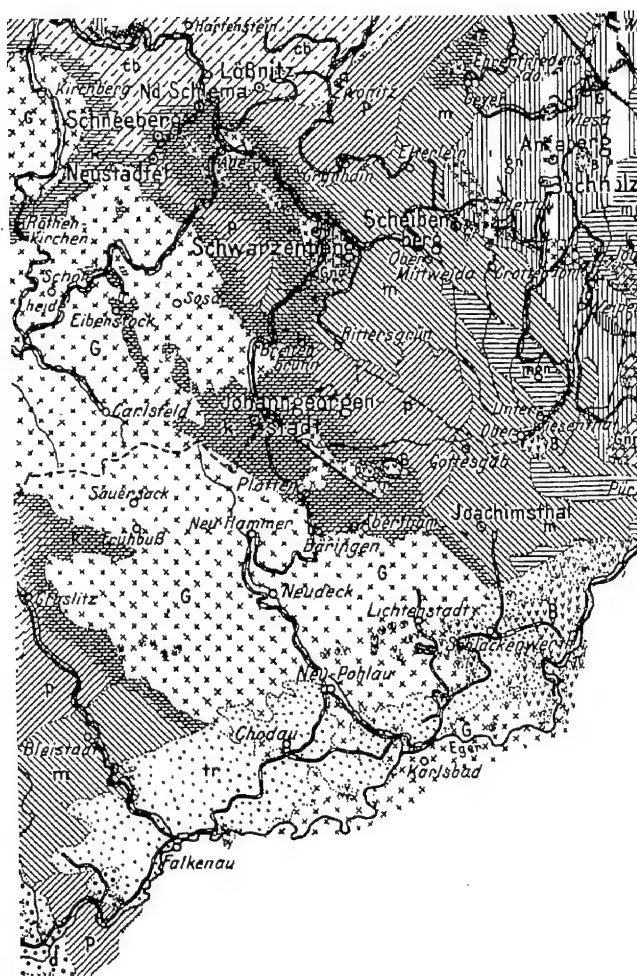
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These lodes, famous by reason of the silver-cobalt mining to which they have given occasion, occur around Annaberg, Buchholz, Marienberg, Scheibenberg, Oberwiesental, Schneeberg, Johanngeorgenstadt, and Joachimsthal, the positions of which, both geologically and geographically, are given in Fig. 335. They lie to the south-west of the Freiberg-Brand district just described.

The silver lodes at Annaberg were discovered in 1492, since when more than 300 lodes have become known in the Annaberg-Buchholz district. In this district the country consists of grey contact gneiss with conformably intercalated layers of quartzite, hornfels, grauwacke, conglomerate, crystalline limestone, and amphibolite, all of which belong to the contact zone of the gneiss, while between Schlettau and Scheibenberg there is a considerable occurrence of augengneiss and coarse gneissic granite. All these rocks are either foliated eruptives or contact-metamorphic rocks. They mantle over the red Erzgebirge gneiss of Reizenstein-Katharinaberg and the grey eruptive gneiss of Freiberg.

The lodes belong partly to the sulphide-lead- and tin groups of the older system, and partly to the cobalt-silver- and iron-manganese groups of the younger system. The more important have always been the cobalt-silver lodes, which group themselves in definite districts or fields wherein two principal lines of strike prevail, one north-south, the other east-west. Generally speaking these lodes may only be followed for 800 m. or so along the strike, and from 100 m. to 400 m. at the most, in depth. The most important of these fields is that around Annaberg, the centre of the former silver-cobalt mining.

The metalliferous filling consists of different silver minerals such as



## Legend

Micaceous  
Phyllite

Mica-schist

Schistose  
phyllitic  
gneissRed contact  
gneiss with  
garnet-mica  
rockGrey contact  
gneissAugengneiss &  
coarse-grained  
gneissic  
graniteContact aureole  
of the Granite

Granite



Basalt



Cambrian



Devon

Brown-coal  
formation

FIG. 335.—Geological map of the Upper Erzgebirge mining district. See H. Credner.

dyscrasite, native silver, black silver, argentite, argentiferous marcasite, cerargyrite; of cobalt- and nickel minerals; and of pyrite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, and scarce bismuth minerals. The gangue consists of quartz, barite, fluorite, and dolomite. Uranium ores represent a special primary zone, which is more closely described in the chapter dealing with uranium lodes. The deposits of this district are particularly rich at lode junctions and at intersection with certain seams known as *Schwebende*, these being bed-like or lode-like, flatly dipping attrition zones of highly decomposed gneiss, mica-schist, or clay, the last-named being sometimes quite sooty-black by reason of contained carbon. The attrition zones themselves contain no ore. We regard them as older than the lodes, towards the parent solutions of which they acted as impervious barriers, so impounding these solutions that great accumulations of ore became precipitated in the immediate neighbourhood.

The production of the Annaberg mines from 1496 to 1600 amounted altogether to 315,500 kg. of silver and 2423 tons of copper, having a total value of about 1.2 million sterling; from 1701 to 1850 about 7855 tons of cobalt ore were produced.

The Marienberg district to the north-east of Buchholz-Annaberg, in addition to the tin lodes described in the section on tin ores,<sup>1</sup> contains others belonging to the silver-cobalt- and sulphide zinc-lead groups. The geological circumstances are the same as those at Annaberg, though Marienberg lies still nearer the red eruptive gneiss of Reitzenstein-Katharinaberg. Two interesting lode-systems embracing together more than 100 lodes occur, which, striking north-east and north-west respectively, are fairly at right angles to each other; these directions correspond respectively to the Erzgebirge and Hercynian folds. The extent of these lodes along the strike, as exemplified in the cases of the Bauer-Morgengang, the Elisabeth-Flachengang, and the Eleonore-Morgengang, reaches at times more than 3 kilometres. The minerals present are galena, sphalerite, pyrite, silver-cobalt minerals, and pitchblende, while quartz, barite, fluorite, and dolomite, occur as gangue. Enrichment in precious metal was found at lode junctions and at intersection with the above-mentioned flat-lying attrition zones, here known as the 'black seams.' According to official figures, from 1775 to 1795 the ore won assayed 78 per cent of silver, though otherwise the general average has been but 0.94 per cent. Compared with Freiberg the lodes of this district are richer, but more broken. From 1520 to 1600 silver- and copper ore to the total value of about £625,000 was produced, of which amount about £220,000 was distributed as dividends. This district to-day is of no importance.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 425.

The Scheibenberg-Oberwiesental district likewise has no significance.

The lodes of the Schneeberg district, discovered in 1471 at a time when mining at Freiberg was declining, their discovery accordingly imparting new life to Saxon silver mining, are of real importance. Schneeberg, to the west of Annaberg, lies between the Eibenstock granite to the south, the Kirchberg granite to the west, and the granite outlier of Aue and Oberschlema to the east, in an area of Cambrian clay-slate and phyllite, which rocks to a considerable extent have been altered by the granite to spotted schist and andalusite-mica schist. The lodes continue also in considerable number into the granite.

Among the lodes an older system, containing tin, copper, and sulphide zinc-lead ores, may be differentiated from a younger system, with silver ores and quartzose cobalt-bismuth and iron ores. Although of the older system the copper lodes formerly were not without importance, the sulphide-zinc-lead lodes only will be discussed here. These contain abundant arsenopyrite, sphalerite, galena, pyrite, and chalcopyrite, less abundant tetrahedrite and molybdenite, with quartz as the principal gangue.

More important still however are the silver- and cobalt-silver lodes of the younger system which, though small in number, were formerly remarkable for their exceeding richness in silver. These occur in contact-metamorphic schists at Schneeberg and Schlema, as well as at Bockau and Aue, and carry silver minerals with subordinate cobalt, nickel, and bismuth, in a barytic gangue. It is stated that in the year 1477 a mass of mixed argentite and native silver weighing about 20 tons was found in the Fürsten adit of the famous St. Georg mine, at a spot where several lodes came together.

The most important lodes of the Schneeberg district are however those of the cobalt-bismuth group upon which mining is still proceeding. These occur within an area 10 sq. km. in extent, of which Neustädte is the centre. At that place the lodes are in such number that according to Müller the occurrence may be compared to a gigantic stockwork. The lodes strike west-north-west or north-north-west, dip steeply, and are usually 0.5 to 3 m. wide. Some are known for a length of 3 km. along the strike, and for more than 300 m. in depth. Along their extent they often split into veins which afterwards reunite. The lode-filling consists of grey and white smaltite, earthy cobalt, bismuth-linnæite, erythrite, niccolite, chloanthite, frequent native bismuth, bismite, a little silver ore, arsenopyrite, pitchblende, and other rarer uranium ores; together with quartz, hornstone, dolomite, and calcite, as gangue. According to Beck the ore in these cobalt lodes ceases as soon as the fissures penetrate the granite below the schists. An exception to this however is provided in the Weisser-Hirsch mine which is celebrated for its uranium ore; in

that mine rich cobalt ores are also found within the granite. In this district also, flat attrition zones with carbonaceous alum-shale material are associated with a betterment in the metalliferous content.

The production of the Schneeberg mines, which belong partly to the State and partly to cobalt-blue works, may be gathered from the following table :

Year.	Argentiferous Co, Ni, and Bi Ore.	Uranium Ore.	Value in Pounds sterling.
1905	239.5	1.5	28,300
1906	235.75	...	26,850
1907	214.5	...	17,500
1908	207.75	...	20,600
1909	235.5	...	20,200

The Johanngeorgenstadt district in Saxony, where mines still continue in operation, lies to the south-south-east of Schneeberg and immediately at the boundary with Bohemia. The geological circumstances of this district are similar to those at Schneeberg; highly metamorphosed Cambrian slates occur, which in part have been altered to andalusite-mica schist by the Eibenstock granite massive to the west, and by the Plattenberg granite outlier situated somewhat to the east. The lodes belong to the silver- and iron groups. The filling is quite similar to that of the Annaberg district though richer in bismuth- and uranium ores, the latter being particularly found at the Vereinigt mine in the Fastenberg. The importance of this district in bismuth mining may be seen from the following table :

Year.	Bismuth Ore.	Pitchblende.
	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.
1905	52.3	2.7
1906	42.8	2.5
1907	39.0	0.9
1908	39.9	...
1909	42.7	...

The Joachimsthal district in Bohemia, lies south-east of Johanngeorgenstadt, in the neighbourhood of the great line of disturbance with which the celebrated springs of Carlsbad, etc., are connected.

Geologically, this district consists of mica-schist, which rests upon the Eibenstock granite to the west, and to the north is in turn overlaid by the Cambrian beds of the Johanngeorgenstadt district. This mica-schist also bears evidence of contact with the granite; it consists petrographically of dark phyllite-like graphitic mica-schist, banded mica-schist, calcite-

and scapolite-mica schist, gneissic mica-schist, and coarsely fibrous garnetiferous mica-schist; it also contains interbedded layers of limestone and hornblende rocks. These schists are crossed by dykes of quartz-porphry and isolated dykes of basalt and phonolite.

The lodes, which belong to the silver-cobalt group, occur chiefly in the phyllite-like graphitic mica-schist, which forms several south-east striking zones dipping north and north-east. The principal directions of these lodes are north-south to north-north-east, the so-called 'midnight lodes,' and east-west or east-south-east, the so-called 'early lodes.' The latter dip  $50^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$  always to the north; the former  $40^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$ , sometimes to the east and sometimes to the west. The width generally varies between 0.15 and 0.6 m., though exceptionally it reaches 1–2 metres.

The ore consists of smaltite, bismuthinite, native bismuth, bismite, nickel minerals, and pitchblende, the occurrence of this last being discussed in a later chapter. At the lode junctions, silver enrichments consisting of native silver, pyrrargyrite, proustite, argentite, and black silver, are found. The lode-filling, particularly that of the early lodes, consists largely of slaty and clayey material and less frequently of quartz or calcite. In the eastern extent of the midnight lodes hornstone and dolomite occur plentifully. The distribution of the ore is irregular and discontinuous. The primary depth-zones and the part played by the pitchblende are referred to when dealing with the uranium lodes.

The most important lodes of this still famous district are the Hildebrand, Geister, Fluder, and the Edelleutstollen lodes. The important mines are the State mines of Joachimsthal, the Edelleutstollen, and the Hilfe-Gottes. The development of the district was begun in the sixteenth century. In 1520 more than 8000 miners were employed and hundreds of mines were at work. Rich ore-bodies were found at first immediately below the surface and some of the mines worked without lamps. It was in this district that silver was first made into coins, these being known as 'Joachimsthaler'; hence the term 'Thaler.' At present however the district is only of importance in relation to uranium ores for the extraction of radium, the output of these ores latterly having been as follows:

1896 . . .	30.00 tons.	1903 . . .	9.18 tons.
1897 . . .	51.00 "	1904 . . .	8.08 "
1898 . . .	52.00 "	1905 . . .	16.35 "
1899 . . .	46.00 "	1906 . . .	0.00 "
1900 . . .	17.00 "	1907 . . .	0.00 "
1901 . . .	16.15 "	1908 . . .	9.18 "
1902 . . .	11.00 "	1909 . . .	8.08 "

Concerning the geological age of the Erzgebirge lodes, the first rending of the older fissures and the first filling of the lodes took place presumably in late

boniferous-Rotliegendes time ; that this filling itself was subsequently in rent is probable. These old lodes were the source of the amethyst l quartz boulders which are found in the Cretaceous beds in the neighbourhood of Freiberg. The filling of the younger lodes was probably contemporaneous with the main fissures of the Harz, in which case they would be of Miocene age.

The condition of lead-silver mining in Saxony is greatly dependent on the metal prices. These of late years have been very low. The silver obtained in the ore delivered from the Saxon mines to the Freiberg smelting works in the year 1910 amounted to 6421·8 kg. as compared with 7898·8 kg. the year previous, the corresponding values being £17,000 and £19,600 respectively. Freiberg itself not many decades ago produced 25,000–30,000 kg. of silver yearly. The market conditions for lead also have been unsatisfactory. The lead ore sent from the Saxon mines to the Freiberg works in 1909 contained 1487 tons of lead valued at £12,800, whereas in the year previous these figures were 1493 tons and £13,400 respectively. Owing to the control of the zinc convention the condition of the zinc market in 1909 was more favourable.

According to official statistics the ore produced in the Freiberg district in 1909 was 11,120 tons valued at £32,000. The Marienberg-Scheibenberg district, apart from a few tons of zinc ore, produced nothing. The Johannsteden district produced 2662 tons valued at £4240 ; the Schneeberg district, 2746 tons at £23,100. The total production of Saxony in rich silver ore and argentiferous lead-, copper-, arsenic-, zinc-, and sulphur-ores in 1909 amounted to 7617 tons worth £34,300. In addition, 4117 tons of arsenopyrite, pyrite, and chalcopyrite, were produced, having a value of £450 ; 173 tons of sphalerite worth £245 ; 288 tons of bismuth-, cobalt-, and nickel ores worth £23,100 ; and 0·29 tons of pitchblende worth £37.

## THE OBERHARZ

The Harz mountains represent the south-east striking, or Hercynian, part of a mountain range consisting of Devonian and Culm beds, these beds themselves being disposed in north-east or Dutch folds. To the north this range is separated from the fore-ground by lines of dislocation, so that a combination of anticline and uplift exists.

It was formerly considered that a sinuous and undulating anticlinal axis of the oldest rocks existed, upon the two lateral flanks of which, and between three synclines occurring between them, the upper beds were laid. Of these anticlinal flanks, that to the north-west would be represented by the Oberharz, and that to the south-east by the Unterharz, while the three

synclines would be those at Elbingerode and Selkemulde to the north, and that at Ilfeld to the south. In addition, the geological position is materially conditioned by two granite intrusions of Carboniferous age, the Brocken massive occurring between the Oberharz and the Elbingerode syncline, and the Ramberg massive between the Elbingerode and Selkemulde synclines. Farther to the east the Mansfeld syncline adjoins the Unterharz. Recent investigation however has not supported this widely held tectonic representation, though the surveys are not yet sufficiently advanced to allow a new anticlinal axis to be formulated.

The Oberharz is a high plateau consisting chiefly of Culm beds disposed in conformity with Dutch folds, that is to say, as illustrated in Fig. 35, they strike north-east. Beneath these in the northern portion of the district, Devonian beds appear, which, as illustrated in Fig. 22, with north-east strike and much detailed folding, form roughly an air-anticline normally overlaid on its north-west and south-east flanks by Culm beds, and to the south-west and north-east bounded by fault escarpments. The fore-ground consists of Zechstein, Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous beds.

## THE CLAUSTHAL LODES

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The lodes of the Oberharz extend over the entire Clausthal plateau, around Grund, Wildemann, Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Lautenthal, Bockswiese, and Schulenberg, in a district 18 km. long and 8 km. wide. In greater part and as illustrated in Fig. 56, they are fault fissures filled with ore and gangue. Such other lodes as represent the filling of fissures along which no movement took place, play but a subordinate part. The general strike is east-south-east to south-east, and the dip  $70^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$  to the south. Generally the lodes do not occur singly and independently, but several more or less parallel fissures occurring close to one another are linked



together by subsidiary branches; lodes so related to one another form what is best described as a lode-series. The occurrence is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 336 representing the different lode-series in the Oberharz,

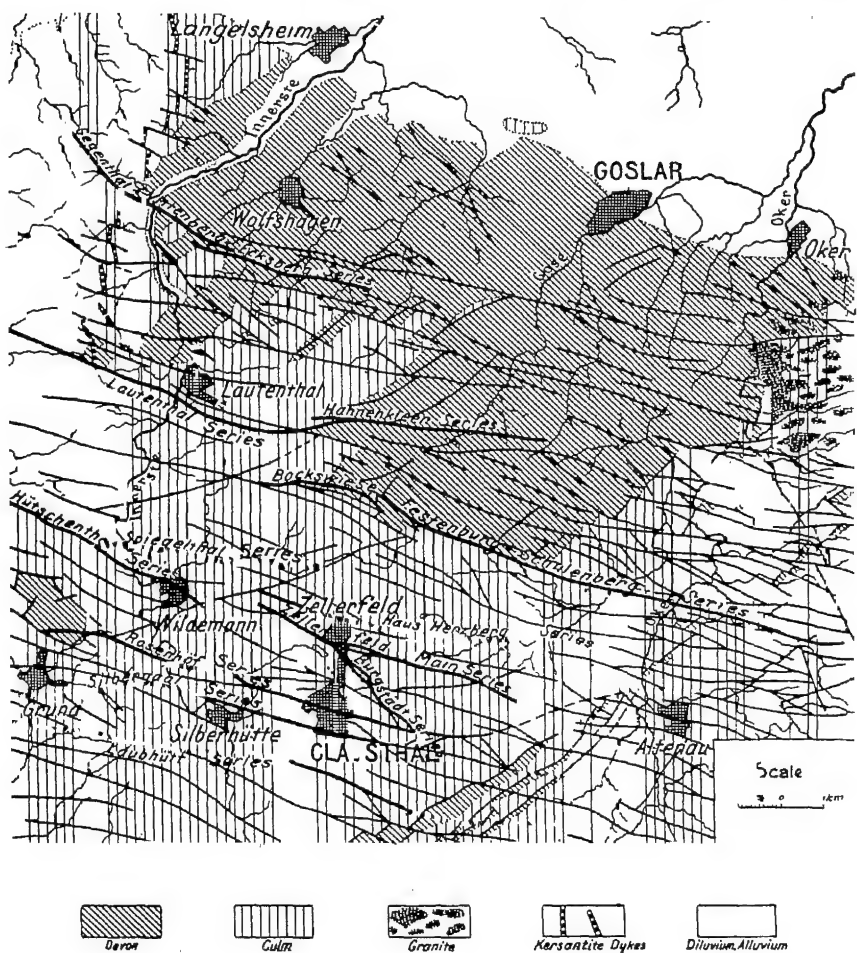


FIG. 336.—The different lode-series of the Oberharz. L. Beushausen, *Kgl. Pr. Geol. Landesanst.*

many of which extend 8–10 km. or more along the strike. These from north to south are as follows:

1. The Gegenthal-Wittenberg Series.
2. The Lautenthal-Hahnenkleer Series.
3. The Bockswiese-Festenburg-Schulenberg Series.

4. The Hüttschenthal-Spiegethal Series.
5. The Haus Herzberg Series.
6. The Zellerfeld Main Series.
7. The Burgstadt Series.
8. The Rosenhof Series.
9. The Silbernaal Series.
10. The Laubhütte Series.

In form, most of the lodes—having generally a distinct clay-parting on the foot-wall while towards the hanging-wall merging gradually into undisturbed country—are composite lodes in the sense of Cotta. The width in consequence is often considerable and may be as much as 40 m., nor to the depth of 910 m. so far reached has any general diminution of width been established. The well-known flucan-faults or *Ruscheln* of the Harz are generally without influence upon the lodes, though occasionally a splitting or deflection takes place where these are crossed; such splitting for instance occurs with the Rosenhof Series, and such deflection with the Zellerfeld and Burgstadt Series. In the numerous slickensides and in the occurrence of lode-slate there is evidence that earth movements subsequently took place along the lode fissures.

The lode-filling consists of ore, gangue, and country-rock. The most important ore is galena with 0.01–0.3 per cent of silver, that is, 100–3000 grm. per ton; next in importance comes sphalerite, which at Lautenthal preponderates; chalcopryrite, tetrahedrite, and bournonite are uncommon; gersdorffite only occurs locally; and the selenides of lead and copper only as rarities. Quartz is the prevailing gangue, calcite is less frequent, and the occurrence of barite is limited to the different southern series, and principally to the western portion of these. This occurrence of barite can be demonstrated to be referable to the Zechstein country; indeed throughout Germany the distribution of this mineral often coincides with that of the Zechstein and Bunter formations. The extent to which the country-rock, —grauwacke and clay-slate—participate in the lode-filling, varies.

The lode structure is generally banded or crusted; less frequently it is irregularly coarse. The zonal incrustation of fragments of country-rock to form concentric ore, illustrated in Fig. 126, is characteristic. Quartz and galena appear to be the oldest minerals, following which come chalcopryrite, sphalerite, and calcite, in varying proportions, while barite, siderite, strontianite, and marcasite, probably represent a younger generation. The ore generally occurs in shoots which, contrary to the steeply dipping lode in which they lie, are flat, having usually a dip of not more than 45°. Where two lodes come together rich ore-bodies are often found.

The first fracturing of the lode fissures was presumably closely connected with the upheaval of the Brocken massive in Upper Carboniferous, subsequently to which, and in response to later tectonic phenomena, the fissures were again repeatedly opened. The first filling however took place immediately after the first fracturing. Since, though seldom, galena is found in fissures and cavities in the Zechstein, it may safely be assumed that with the later tectonic phenomena metalliferous solutions ascended.

The importance of the lodes of the Oberharz may be gathered from following figures. In the year 1908 eight mines together produced 300 tons of argentiferous galena and sphalerite, containing on an average 7 per cent of lead and 8·7 per cent of zinc. This ore had a value of £202,000 at the mine. During the same year the total production of lead-zinc ore in Germany was 2,913,000 tons with 11 per cent of zinc and 3·9 per cent of lead, while the total value of the lead-, silver-, and zinc amounted to £1,815,000.

## ST. ANDREASBERG

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Though a distance of but 16 km. intervenes, the district of St. Andreasberg is quite different from that of Clausthal. The lodes at St. Andreasberg occur in Palæozoic beds bordering the Brocken massive, to the south of the Bruchberg range. The extension of the individual Palæozoic lodes is dependent upon considerable dislocations, and particularly upon two outside faults known respectively as the Neufang flüchen to the north, and the Edelleute flüchen to the south. These two breaks enclose between them a pronounced wedge of ground, the thin end of which, as illustrated in Figs. 155 and 337, is directed to the west. North of the Neufang flüchen the Culm, represented by grauwacke, clay-slate, and mica-schist, occurs, while the wedge itself and the country south, are Devonian. In addition to Lower Devonian beds, which may be correlated with the Upper Coblenz Series, the deep-sea facies of the Middle Devonian is, according to Bode, represented by the Wissenbach slate. Further, according to the most recent correlation, the Lower Devonian, with a

considerable shortage of its members, along the Neufang flucan abuts against the Culm to the north. The Lower Devonian beds in this district are therefore especially concerned in the ore-deposits. The northern portion of the district is already in the contact zone of the Brocken granite; the beds there strike north-east, are much contorted and sometimes inverted, and usually dip to the south-east.

The silver lodes are exclusively found in the wedge between the two flucans mentioned, this wedge being some 3 km. long and at its base 1 km. wide. The northern or Neufang flucan is an overthrust which strikes north-east and dips steeply to the south-east. Along it the Lower Devonian beds have been forced up over the Culm. It is some 12 m. wide and cuts the formation at an acute angle. The southern or Edelleute flucan is likewise about 12 m. wide; it strikes east-west and dips steeply to the south. According to Bode, its southern wall in the eastern portion appears to have sunk, while in the western portion on the other hand it appears to have risen, that is, to have been overthrust. The complete part played by these dislocations in the stratigraphy of the district will however only be made clear by still further investigation.

According to all appearances the Neufang flucan represents an overthrust whereof the direction of the movement has not yet been satisfactorily established. Within the wedge two overthrusts of smaller width, known respectively as the Abendrot and Silberburg flucans, occur, though these unfortunately are no longer approachable for further investigation. It is assumed that these three overthrusts, the Neufang, Abendrot, and Silberburg, are contemporaneous among themselves but older than the Edelleute flucan, which is regarded as an ordinary fault.

Although the silver lodes are limited to this wedge between the outside flucans, other lode fissures containing ore are found unfettered by this limitation. Iron lodes, for instance, occur north of the Neufang flucan and also farther to the west, while barite-copper lodes are found to the south of the Edelleute flucan. The north-west-striking Engelsburg lode, situated roughly 1.5 km. south-east of St. Andreasberg, and containing chalcopryite, silver-free galena, calcite, and quartz, is well known.

Within this wedge the silver lodes occur chiefly to the west, where according to their strike they form two series, one striking north-west and the other striking east. To the former series belong the Wennsglückt, Jakobsglück, Samson, Andreaskreuz, Franz-August, Felizitas, Fünf-Bücher-Moses, and the Prinz Maximilien lodes, while to the latter belong the Neufang, Gnade-Gottes, Julian, Bergmannstrost, and Morgenrot lodes. All dip steeply to the north or north-east, those of the first series at  $80^{\circ}$ – $90^{\circ}$ , those of the second at  $70^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$ . At the Neufang flucan they split up or are dragged till they disappear. At the Abendrot and Silberburg

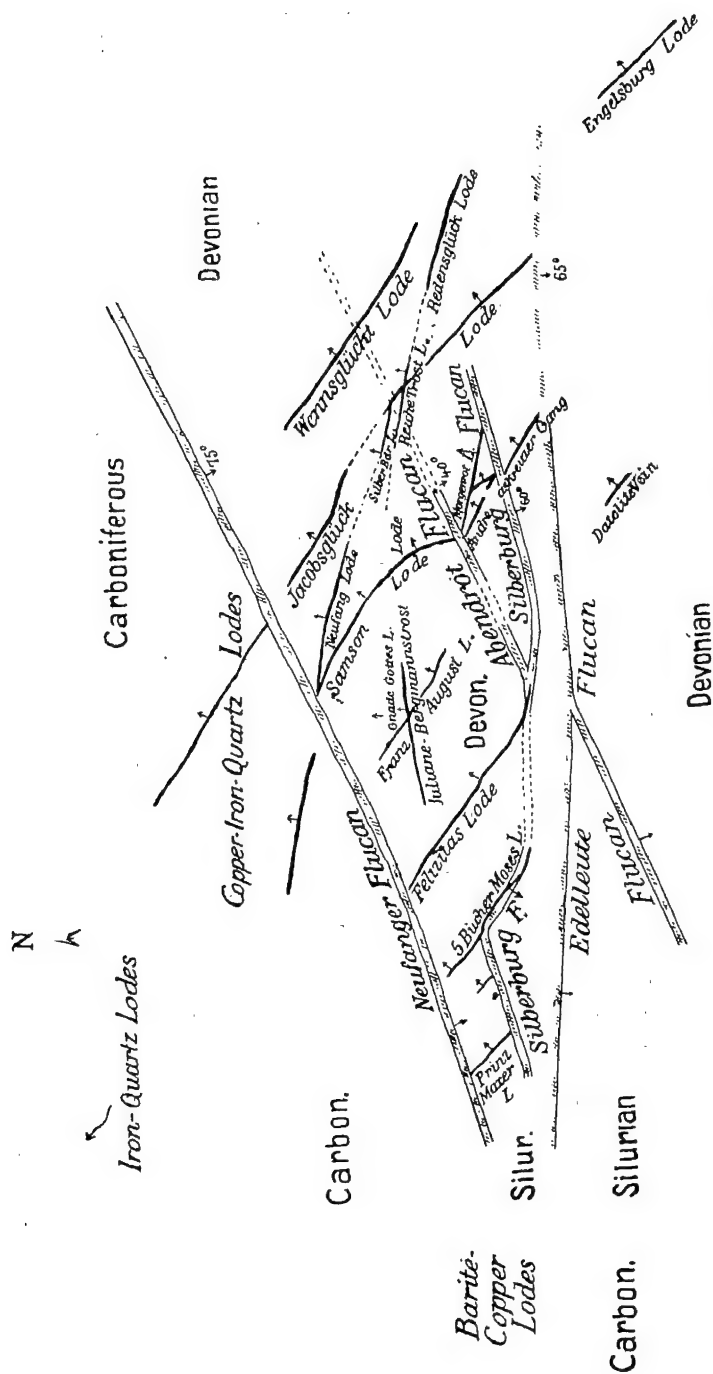


FIG. 337.—Map showing lodes at St. Andreasberg in the Harz. Werner, Glückauf, 1908.

flucans they behave similarly though with this difference, that they reappear and continue on the other side of these flucans. Their relations to the Edelleute flucan can no longer be studied; Werner however assumed that this fault is younger than the lodes. All the lodes become smaller in soft slaty rock, and particularly in the Wissenbach slate above the diabase. The silver lodes are simple lodes, generally less than 1 m. in width and with sharply defined walls. They are often severed by secondary faults which strike north-east and dip south-east, the eastern portion of the lode at such severance being usually forced over the western; the lateral displacement does not however amount to more than 1-2 metres. Werner assumed that these secondary faults are younger than the lodes and contemporaneous with the Neufang flucan.

The lode-filling, which is almost invariably fast cemented to the rock, consists chiefly of whitish calcite of an older generation, with impregnations, veins, and nests of quartz, and of galena, sphalerite, native arsenic, pyrrargyrite, dyscrasite, arsen-argentite, and native silver. Less important are breithauptite, niccolite, smaltite, and fluorite, while barite is quite an isolated occurrence. The ore- and gangue-minerals in vugs belong to a second generation, one which is excellently developed crystallographically, in which connection Klockmann has called attention to the beautiful and many-faced crystals of calcite with pyrrargyrite, and pyrostilpnite. Noteworthy in addition are the numerous zeolites, such as apophyllite, analcime, harmotome, desmine, stilbite, and natrolite; and also datolite and fluorite. The last-named is infrequent and only of mineralogical interest; according to Werner it is younger than the quartz but older than the younger calcite and the zeolites.

The Wennsglückt lode to the north-east, exhibits some points of exceptional character. In the upper levels it carried limonite; below this for some depth it was barren; while in greater depth it contained sporadic chalcopyrite, a little galena, tetrahedrite, proustite, and pyrrargyrite.

Barite as a part of the lode-filling has only been observed in the Prinz Maximilien lode and in a branch of the Samson lode, in both cases close under the surface. It has however also been found together with zeolites and pyrite in the country-rock, at a depth of 750 metres. The distribution of the ore-bodies along the lode plane is usually quite irregular. The primary relations of galena to sphalerite are interesting; the galena in depth appears to give place to the sphalerite.

The difference between these lodes and those at Clausthal is striking. At St. Andreasberg, where silver greatly exceeds the other metals in value, zeolites are common, while fluorite is exceptional, and barite practically absent. Lossen regarded these differences as expressive of different

depth-zones, the St. Andreasberg lodes representing a deeper zone nearer the Brocken granite than that which would include the lodes at Clausthal. Klockmann however is of opinion that the diabase so frequently present at St. Andreasberg and absent from Clausthal, materially contributed to these differences. According to Bode, the distribution of the ore-bodies is partly dependent upon the nature of the country-rock, calcareous rocks such as intercalated limestone or calcareous diabase, producing an enrichment.

Werner divided the ore-minerals into three different groups according to the manner of their formation, namely: (1) those deposited from original solution; (2) those formed in depth by the action of subsequent solutions upon those of the first group; (3) those formed in the upper levels and gossan by the action of meteoric waters upon the first group; in this last group are also included those formed in the mines by mine water. According to him the original ores are dyscrasite, arsenic, galena, sphalerite, tetrahedrite, and less frequently, antimony, breithauptite, smaltite, löllingite, chalcopryite, pyrrhotite, and pyrite. Among these he distinguished three ages, the oldest of which included the native metals, arsenic, and antimony, etc.; the next, galena, sphalerite, chalcopryite, and tetrahedrite; while the youngest included pyrrhotite and pyrite, together with the zeolites extracted from the country-rock. Simultaneously with the formation of the pyrrhotite and pyrite an alteration of the earlier original ores began, whereby native silver resulted in the deeper horizons, and pyrargyrite in the shallower. Then also the bulk of the zeolites became formed. Upon subsequent oxidation by meteoric waters the usual oxidation minerals resulted.

The view of Werner concerning the age and formation of these ores, which ascribes a material part to halurgó-metamorphism, that is, the action of saline solutions, can only be endorsed in part by the authors. In their opinion the features observed at St. Andreasberg do not need the application of this metamorphism for their elucidation. These ores are in no way different from those of other silver districts where it has not been thought necessary to call this metamorphism in aid. In Werner's discussions of the subject the failure to mention cementation ores is striking, since such must have been present, as those solutions which brought about oxidation must lower down also have effected cementation. Again, Werner assumed several periods of mineralization by ascending heavy-metal solutions; later solutions must therefore have come into contact with sulphides already deposited from the earlier solutions, and cementation ores must have resulted.

The rich silver ores at St. Andreasberg differ from the rich cementation ores of other districts only in that they have been found to continue to ar

abnormal depth, it being otherwise usual to meet such ores more particularly above ground-water level. In this respect the St. Andreasberg district resembles the silver-copper district of Butte, Montana, where likewise all possible theories were advanced in explanation of the appearance of cementation ores at such relatively great depth; till finally, Emmons explained the circumstance by tectonic causes, namely, a depression of the district, which so far as the deposit was concerned would be equivalent to a rising of the ground-water level.

So long however as the earth movements in the wedge which forms the lode district of St. Andreasberg are not understood, the formation of the rich silver ores there will lack satisfactory explanation. The important question still to be answered is whether this wedge in the course of geological time has, in relation to its surroundings, sunk, or been raised. According to Krusch the nature of the ores suggests a depression of the district, equivalent to a gradual rising of the water-level. In such a case rich cementation ores might very well be found deep below the present water-level. Galena and sphalerite, as before, would be primary ores, galena forming an upper primary zone, and sphalerite a lower. The silver content of the former, probably a high one, would provide the wherewithal to form rich cementation ore, since after having been taken into solution by the descending surface waters, and after the consumption of the oxygen brought in by these waters, it would become precipitated by the reducing action of the galena and sphalerite. The sinking of this wedge would then take such cementation ore into depth with it.

The occurrence of zeolites may perhaps be ascribed to the direct influence of the eruptive rocks found in the neighbourhood. To this influence indeed Krusch ascribed the striking difference between the lodes of this district and those at Clausthal, being moved thereto by the fact that the lodes at Clausthal, towards the south, that is in the direction of St. Andreasberg, possess an increasing silver content, those around Grund having actually the highest silver content of any sulphide lead-zinc lode in Germany, in primary ore.

The lodes at St. Andreasberg, discovered in 1521, reached their zenith in the second half of the sixteenth century, after which followed a period of quiescence. Then, after being taken up again about the middle of the seventeenth century, work proceeded without cessation till 1910, when on the exhaustion of the ore-bodies it again stopped. Of late years the output has been but a few tons of ore annually.



## THE LODES OF THE RHENISH SCHIEFERGEBIRGE

## 1. THE BERG DISTRICT

## LITERATURE

E. BUFF. Beschreibung des Bergreviers Deutz. Bonn, 1882.—A. SCHNEIDER. Lagerstättenkarte des Bensberger Gangreviers. Bonn, 1882.—W. PETERSSON. 'Die Blende- und Bleigruben Berzelius und Lüderich im Bergischen Lande,' Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg., 1890, p. 601.—L. SOUVEUR. 'Greenockit, Wurzit, und Smithsonit von der Grube Lüderich bei Bensberg,' Zeit. f. Kristall. u. Min., 1884, Vol. XXIII, p. 549.—H. v. DECHEN. Erläuterung der geologischen Karte der Rheinprovinz und Westfalens. Bonn, 1870.—ZELENY. 'Das Unterdevon im Bensberger Erzdistrikt u.s.w.,' Arch. f. Lagerstätten. Geol. Landesanst. Berlin, 1912.

The Berg Hills, consisting of Middle and Lower Devonian slates with subordinate intercalated limestone, rise out of the Rhine valley east of Cologne. The beds strike north-east and include from the oldest Gedinnian with its lower arkose and upper red-coloured slate on the one side, to what appears to be upper Middle Devonian limestone on the other; since however the boundaries of the individual beds are determined in part by large breaks it cannot yet be said whether the sequence of beds so embraced is complete. At Bensberg for instance, the Gedinnian comes against considerably younger limestones of the Lower and Middle Devonian.

This Devonian formation around Berg-Gladbach, Bensberg, Immekeppel, and Engelskirchen, contains many lead-zinc lodes, the more important of which have been or are worked in the Lüderich, Bliesenbach, Weiss, Berzelius, Castor, and Pollux mines. The majority of these lodes are found to the south of the Berg-Gladbach limestone syncline, where they extend to the east and south, to the Bröhl river and to the Sieg respectively; few occurrences are known in the Devonian slate north of this syncline. To the north the district is bounded by the Dierscheid and Lennef rivers.

The Lower and Middle Devonian slate, consisting of grauwacke and subordinate clay-slate, rests upon the Gedinnian, with which it forms anticlines and synclines, these in places being steeply inclined. As Zeleny has shown, a relation undoubtedly exists between the tectonics of the district and the occurrence of lodes, these latter occurring along faults and subsidences, a similar relation in the case of Siegerland having been demonstrated by Denckmann. This geological position may be particularly well observed in the occurrences at and in the neighbourhood of Lüderich.

While the strike of the lodes varies greatly, the dip, which is generally between  $60^{\circ}$ – $70^{\circ}$  and but rarely as low as  $45^{\circ}$ , is always steeper than that of the country-rock, though in the same direction. In relation to width and



nature the lodes exhibit great differences. The narrow lodes show distinct walls, some of these being clean fissures and others clay-partings. The filling consists of decomposed clay-slate and fragments of grauwacke and arkose, traversed by quartz veins and ore. With large lodes this brecciated structure is less pronounced. In these, large blocks of country-rock, which though wrenched from the parent mass, much folded, broken, contorted, and traversed by fractures, have usually maintained their internal coherence, constitute the principal mass, which consequently often presents a banded appearance. With lodes so filled a distinct separation from the country-rock no longer exists, and often only through the unmistakable occurrence of a lithomarge-like material in cracks in these large blocks, may it be determined whether any particular mass is within the lode or not. The clay-slate within the lode is often transformed to black lode-slate traversed by numerous fracture planes and slickensides. Where many individual veins come together and form what is best described as a lode zone, the foot-wall is in places well marked and definite, while not infrequently, on the other hand, and chiefly in the hanging-wall, there is a gradual passage from shattered material to regular country-rock. These wide occurrences are in fact composite lodes in the sense of v. Cotta.

Along the strike the lodes are of very different length; while most attain but 50 m., the large zones can be followed for some kilometres. The Max lode for instance can be followed for 1 km., and the Lüderich lode-series for about 4 kilometres.

Within the lode the ore is irregularly distributed, ore-bodies being surrounded by barren or poor parts. In such bodies the ore may be either irregularly coarse or disseminated. They may either occupy the entire width, in which case the richest parts are often found at the walls, or they may occur more in the centre of the lode, in which case they sometimes have their own walls, and sometimes are intergrown with the poorer material. They almost always agree in strike with the lode, and usually form a series of lenticular or globular bodies within the lode. In depth they often contract in dimensions like a funnel, and deeper still are succeeded by other bodies similarly disposed.

The ore consists chiefly of compact, fine-grained to coarse galena with a silver content usually between 200 and 500 grm. per ton, but which may rise to as much as 7000 grm. Of similar importance and frequency is the coarsely-crystalline black-brown sphalerite which always carries cadmium. Chalcopyrite is found almost everywhere, though in such small amount as to be without economic importance; pyrite also is not uncommon in fractures and vugs. Siderite is quite common, and cases are known where lodes worked to-day for their contained galena and sphalerite, were originally worked for siderite. As this ore in some mines also occurs plentifully

in depth, it does not appear to constitute any particular primary horizon. With sphalerite and galena, however, the case is different. Generally with these lodes galena in depth is replaced by sphalerite, the latter therefore representing a deeper primary zone. The amounts of these ores present, varies in different lodes as well as in one and the same lode. At Lüderich the average relation for twenty-nine years between sphalerite and galena was as 100 : 5·7 ; at Blücher as 100 : 10·9 ; at Berzelius as 100 : 31·5 ; and at Apfel as 100 : 41·2. In several cases developments in depth have been less favourable, massive rich ore has given place to disseminated ore or to ore mixed with country-rock, and in general a considerable impoverishment has become established.

The large old workings which mark the outcrops of the larger lodes are evidences of earlier mining operations, doubtless upon lead and silver enrichments. Concerning such workings no reliable data are however available, though it is certain that they were worked by the Romans. Reliable records pertaining to the Lüderich mine date back to the year 1250, when Archbishop Konrad of Hochstaade is stated to have worked the mine in order to obtain money for the building of the Cologne Cathedral. The present working of this, the most important mine of the Berg district, dates from the late 'fifties, when the recovery of zinc from sphalerite was introduced. The importance of Lüderich may be gathered from its production. This in 1880 amounted to 21,742 tons of zinc ore and 6461 tons of lead ore, having together a total value of about £92,000 ; and in 1911 to 12,600 tons of sphalerite and 1570 tons of galena. This mine is now working to a depth of 80 m. below the level of the valley.

## 2. THE HOLZAPPEL LODE-SYSTEM

### LITERATURE

A. BAUER. 'Die Silber- Blei- und Kupfererzgänge von Holzappel an der Lahn, Wellmich und Werlau am Rhein,' Karstens Archiv für Bergbau u.s.w. Vol. XV., 1841.—FR. WENKENBACH. 'Beschreibung der im Herzogtum Nassau an der unteren Lahn und dem Rhein aufsetzenden Erzgänge, sowie eine kurze Übersicht der bergbaulichen Verhältnisse derselben,' Nassauisches naturwissenschaft. Jahrb., 1861, Vol. XVI.—L. SOUBEUR. 'Die Lagerstätte der Zink- Blei- und Kupfererzgrube Gute Hoffnung bei Werlau am Rhein,' Jahrb. d. k. geol. Landesanst., 1892, p. 96.—Erläuterungen zu Blatt Schaumburg der geologischen Spezialkarte von Preussen 1892, by E. KAYSER, the Ore-Deposits by A. SOHNEDER.—EINCKE. 'Die südwestliche Fortsetzung des Holzapfeller Gangzuges zwischen der Lahn und der Mosel,' Bericht der Senkenbergischen naturforschenden Gesellschaft, 1906.—HOLZAPPEL. 'Das Rheintal von Bingerbrück bis Lahnstein,' Abhandl. d. k. pr. geol. Landesanst., New Series, XV., 1893.—Descriptions of the Mining Districts Wiesbaden-Dietz, 1893, by HOLZAPPEL, ULRICH, KÖRPER, etc., published by the Royal Mining Department at Bonn.—W. SCHÖPPE. 'Der Holzapfeller Gangzug,' Kgl. Preuss. Geol. Landesanst., Arch. f. Lagerstättenforschung, Part III., Berlin 1911.

The country of the Lower Lahn consists chiefly of Lower Devonian, which to the east is overlaid by Middle and Upper Devonian. The beds

strike north-east and occur in many parallel folds, which being overturned the beds almost invariably dip south-east. In relation to the lodes, only the Lower Devonian beds come into question, namely, the Hunsrück slate as lowermost bed, and then the Lower and Upper Coblenz,

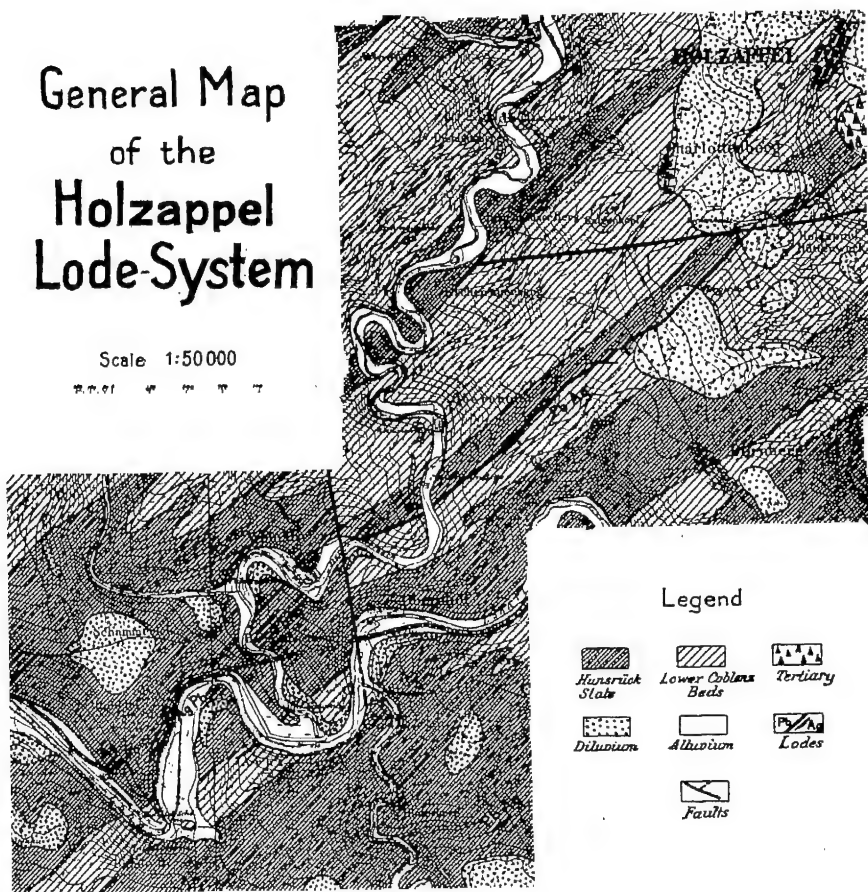


FIG. 339.—Geological map of the Holzappel lode-system. Scale, 1:50,000.

these consisting of various clay-slates, grauwackes, and quartzites, with porphyroid slates and diabase. In consequence of the numerous faults and the rarity of horizons with characteristic fossils, the correct correlation of any particular bed is not easily determined. The porphyroid slates belong to the deepest horizon of the Lower Coblenz; these rocks are generally regarded as dynamically metamorphosed eruptives and tuffs.

The rock known as white rock deserves special notice. This formerly was regarded either as a bedded occurrence, in which case it would represent an altered slate or porphyroid, or as a dyke, when it would represent a decomposed diabase. Schöppe endorses the view expressed by Rosenbusch that this white rock has resulted chiefly from thermal metamorphism, and only recognizes as white rock that which occurs in dyke form and was originally diabase. According to him, this white rock is older than the present lodes, the solutions which formed these being the last to invade the rock in question.

Both the beds and lodes are affected by a large number of tectonic disturbances, of which the various lateral displacements along the lodes are the oldest, these being presumably of Devonian age. Somewhat younger are the disturbances which brought about a change in level. These strike somewhat more northerly than the beds, and probably represent overthrusts; they dip at an angle of  $10^{\circ}$ – $30^{\circ}$  to the south-east and pinch the lodes both in strike and dip. They are younger than the lodes and probably belong to post-Culm orogenics. True faults are represented by fissures cutting across the formation at an acute angle. Of these, the two most important are known respectively as the 'morning' and 'evening' main faults.

According to Kayser, whose view is endorsed by Schöppe, the Holzappel lode-system is a composite strike-fault not invariably accompanied by dislocation. The general coincidence in strike and dip of the lode and country-rock, in spite of small transgressions, is justification for regarding the deposit as a bedded system. This system strikes east-north-east and dips  $52^{\circ}$  to the south-east. It consists of five lodes, of which one is the main lode, three are branch lodes, and the fifth a transverse lode. The width of the main lode varies between 0.6 and 7 m.; in depth it appears to be more regular, though contractions in its width are not infrequent. At Holzappel it has been followed for more than 2200 m., and at Leopoldine and Luise for more than 1200 metres. It has been opened to the sixteenth level, that is, to a depth of 342 m. below surface. Of the branch lodes, that in the foot-wall, 0.2–0.3 m. in width, is the most important; that in the hanging-wall is 0.10–0.15 m. wide; while that out in the hanging-wall and on the thirteenth level 40 m. distant from the main lode, consists of two veins each 0.15 m. wide. The transverse lode strikes south-south-west and dips  $72^{\circ}$  to the east. Its width, which is 0.50 m. in the upper levels, diminishes in depth to 0.10–0.12 metres. The influence of the country-rock is evident only in the form of the fissure, which is most regular in grauwacke-slate, splits up in the raw grauwacke, and is still more indefinite in soft clay-slate. Although generally the lodes of this district are composite, simple lodes also occur.

The principal ore-minerals are argentiferous galena, sphalerite, siderite, chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, and less frequently pyrite, while quartz forms the principal gangue. Calcite and dolomite are found together with sphalerite as a later generation along transverse fractures. The distribution of the ore within the lode is fairly regular since no large barren stretches are met. The richest masses of galena were found in the main lode, from the upper levels down to the third deep level 42 m. below the surface. The silver content is greatest with the fine-grained and compact varieties, wherein it amounts to as much as 0.15 per cent, or 1500 grm. per ton, while the general average at present is but 48-55 grm. per ton. The siderite was found in the upper levels of the main lode. The tetrahedrite gives the impression of being a cementation ore. The amount of chalcopyrite decreases rapidly in depth.

Concerning relative age, the determination by Schöppe that the galena is younger than the sphalerite and the older generation of chalcopyrite, is important. The siderite is in part older than the diabase, though it still continued to be formed after the intrusion of that rock. In Siegerland, not far distant, it is entirely older than the diabase. The following figures from Schöppe indicate the importance of the Holzappel mines:—

Year.	Lead Ore.	Silver (per Ton) in Lead Ore.	Zinc Ore.	Percentage recovered from Raw Ore.	
				Galena.	Sphalerite.
	Tons.	Grm.	Tons.		
1896	3099	57.59	8374	7.760	20.823
1897	3603	58.45	8201	8.306	18.905
1898	3501	55.83	8581	7.697	18.806
1899	3488	54.31	8965	7.254	18.644
1900	3758	68.41	8632	7.607	17.461
1901	3393	76.57	9342	6.952	19.143
1902	3335	66.23	9593	6.546	19.834
1903	4237	69.22	8806	8.201	17.044
1904	4930	58.96	8258	9.240	15.470
				Lead	Zinc
1905	4023	62.51	5766	7.76	11.13
1906	4147	61.69	9572	7.15	16.50
1907	4455	65.52	9196	7.25	14.98
1908	4290	76.37	9817	7.14	16.35
1909	3241	67.94	9965	5.32	16.34
1910	3282	72.73	9650	5.29	15.55

Since from 1905 to 1910 the lead recovered has varied from 5.3 to 7.8 per cent of the ore treated and the zinc from 11.1 to 16.3 per cent, it is evident that the ore from the Holzappel mines is richer than the average of such ores in Germany, which contain but 4 per cent of lead and 11 per cent of zinc.

## 3. THE EMS LODGE-SYSTEM

## LITERATURE

WENKENBACH. 'Beschreibung der im Herzogtum Nassau an der unteren Lahn und dem Rhein u.s.w. aufsetzenden Erzgänge, sowie eine kurze Übersicht der bergbaulichen Verhältnisse derselben,' Nassauisches naturwissenschaftliches Jahrb. Wiesbaden, 1861, Vol. XVI.—G. SELIGMANN. 'Beschreibung der auf der Grube Friedrichsseggen vorkommenden Mineralien,' Verhandl. des naturhistorischen Vereins der preuss. Rheinlande und Westfalens, 1876, Vol. XXXIII.—Geologische Spezialkarte von Ems, by E. KAYSER, surveyed 1884 and 1885, with explanatory text.—Beschreibungen der Bergreviere Wiesbaden und Dietz, 1893, by HOLZAPFEL, ULRICH, KÖRFFER, etc., published by the Royal Mining Department, Bonn.

The Ems lode-system occurs in Lower Devonian beds—according to Kayser the Upper Coblenz and the Lower Coblenz quartzite—in a position about 13 km. west of the Holzappel system just described. These beds, which petrographically consist of clay-slate, grauwacke, and quartzite, occur in north-east striking anticlines and synclines, affected by many disturbances. The general geology of the district is illustrated in Fig. 340.

In these rocks many lead-zinc lodes are found collected in groups and series. From north to south the following groups deserve mention, those of Hohe-Buchen, Silberkaute, Silberkäutchen, Kellersberg, Merkur, and to the south of Ems those of Malberg, Bergmannstrost, and Friedrichsseggen. The most important of these are Friedrichsseggen at Oberlahnstein, Bergmannstrost, and Merkur. The ore is associated with a zone of soft grauwacke and clay-slate belonging to the Lower Coblenz. This zone strikes north-east, dips  $75^\circ$  to the south-east, and is 120–150 m. wide. Both walls are marked by clay fissures, known respectively as the main foot-wall and hanging-wall flucans; at Merkur the hanging-wall flucan contains galena and sphalerite up to a width of 0.5 metre. The ore-bodies, the lengths of which are dependent upon their angle to these walls, are cut into detached lengths by fissures running more or less parallel to one another. Of these, at Friedrichsseggen there are more than twenty-four, seventeen of which, distributed over a length of 1400 m., carry ore. At Merkur seven ore-bodies are known over a length of 2300 m., the width of these being generally below 10 m., but rising exceptionally to 20 metres. The structure of the ore, including the gangue, is sometimes irregular and sometimes crusted. The ore consists of argentiferous galena, sphalerite, siderite, and chalcopyrite, less frequently of millerite, linnaeite, and native silver. Quartz is the principal gangue, while calcite and dolomite occur but subordinately. Of these ores, in the main lode at Friedrichsseggen galena and sphalerite are in approximately equal amount, some 8–9 per cent; siderite is estimated at about three times this percentage, while



# General Map of the Ems Lode-System

Scale 1:50000.

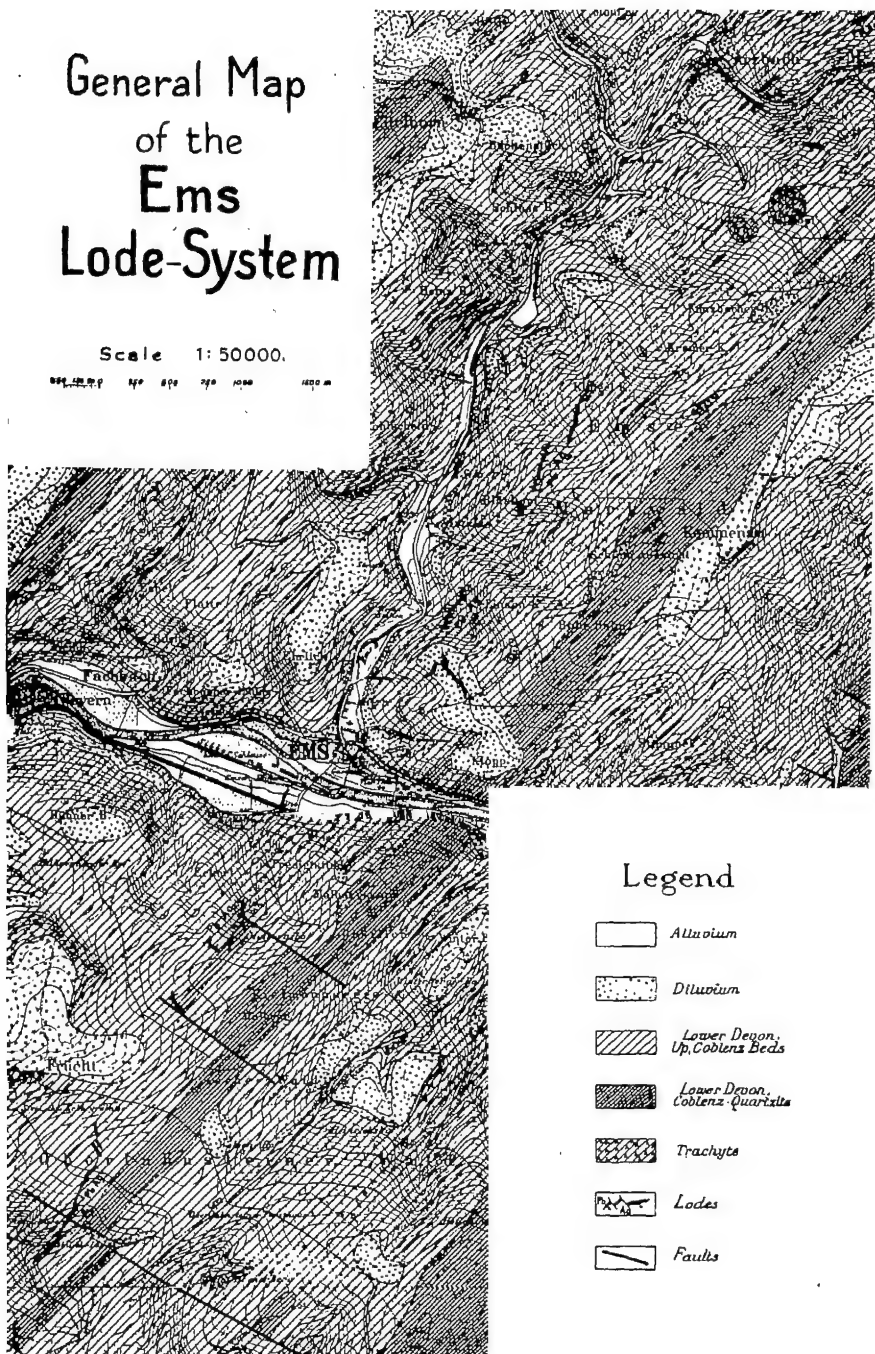


FIG. 340.—Geological map of the Ems lode-system. Scale 1:50,000.

chalcopyrite occurs to the extent of about one-twentieth of the galena. The silver content of the clean galena, containing about 65 per cent of lead, is about 500 grm. per ton.

At Ems the oxidation and cementation ores are well developed. These include pyromorphite, native silver and copper, malachite and azurite, cuprite, bournonite, silver amalgam, tetrahedrite, etc.

Mining in this district began very far back. It is stated that at Friedrichsgegen work was already active under the Romans, which is all the more probable in that the ore-bodies outcropped with considerable width and high silver content. Reliable mention however begins with the commencement of the thirteenth century, when Kaiser Friedrich II. granted a loan to the 'Cologne Pits,' as they were then termed. The Merkur and Bergmannstrost mines, dating back to 1158, are also of great age. At present the mines in this district belong to the Stollberger Gesellschaft at Aachen. The production in 1910 amounted to 6447 tons of galena, 7558 tons of sphalerite, 222 tons of copper ore, and 7044 tons of siderite.

#### 4. THE RAMSBECK LODS

##### LITERATURE

E. HABER. 'Der Blei- und Zinkerzbergbau bei Ramsbeck,' Zeit. f. d. Berg- Hütten- u. Salinenw. im preuss. Staate, 1894, Vol. XLII. p. 77.—E. SCHULZ. Geologische Übersicht der Bergreviere Arnsberg, Brilon und Olpe im Oberbergamtsbezirk Bonn, Bonn, 1877; 'Geologische Übersichtskarte der Bergreviere Arnsberg, Brilon, Olpe sowie des Fürstentums Waldeck,' Korrespondenzblatt des naturhistorischen Vereins für Rheinland und Westfalen, 1887, Vol. XLIV.—Investigations by A. DENCKMANN, in manuscript.

In the neighbourhood of Ramsbeck, a village in the mining district of Brilon, several mines, long in operation, are found over a superficies some 14 km. long and 12 km. wide. According to Denckmann the lodes of this district occur in the Ramsbeck beds of the Devonian, which beds consist of an alternation of grauwacke and clay-slate, crossed by numerous faults. In relation to filling and strike, two groups may be differentiated, namely, the unimportant limonite lodes striking north-south and dipping steeply to the east, and the really important lead-zinc lodes striking east-west. These latter occur in great number and, in spite of their patchy character and narrow width, they may be followed for considerable distances along the strike. In the western portion of the district they dip to the south at  $12^{\circ}$ – $15^{\circ}$ , and in the eastern portion at  $25^{\circ}$ – $30^{\circ}$ , these angles being generally flatter than the country-rock. These east-west lodes cross the country-rock at an acute angle, though occasionally a lode may be found to continue for some distance along the contact between grauwacke and slate. The tendency of the principal lodes to break into parallel veins is noteworthy.

Denckmann has collected evidence showing that the filling of the lodes in the grauwacke is substantially richer than that of those in the slate; while in the former country the fissures are wide, regular, and carry considerable sulphides, in the latter they split up and become poor. Among the disturbances to which they have been subjected, the flat slides, which chiefly occur near the surface, are noteworthy. In the grauwacke these are definite, while in the slate, on the other hand, they are indefinite. Along them the hanging-wall portion of the formation has generally been thrust in a northerly direction, the extent of this thrust being seldom more than 100 metres. In addition, true faults with steep dip and little throw are present in large number.

The ore-minerals include galena, sphalerite, and subordinate pyrite and chalcopyrite; with these a little siderite is associated; quartz is the principal gangue. The ore occurs very disconnectedly, being limited to small bodies which alternate with more extensive barren parts. The most important mineral is galena, which contains 0.027 to 0.065 per cent of silver and is always intergrown with quartz and sphalerite. The occurrence of roundish inclusions of milky quartz in the fine-grained, almost compact, and often argentiferous galena, is characteristic of the Ramsbeck lodes. It may be that these are the remnants of a quartzose gangue which, prevailing formerly, has since been replaced by galena. Coarse crystals of pure galena are seldom found. The sphalerite, mostly coarsely-crystalline in texture and chestnut-brown in colour, is also intergrown with other minerals and gangue. With the quartz other gangue-minerals occur, such as siderite, calcite, dolomite, and barite, though to a less extent.

The genetic relations at Ramsbeck are by no means easy of determination, the fissures having been repeatedly re-opened; the different minerals are not contemporaneous. Moreover, further investigation alone will be able to indicate the extent to which subsequent replacement of the earlier fillings proceeded.

These mines, formerly held by many, have since the year 1859 been held by one company.<sup>1</sup> In 1890 the output was 4025 tons of galena and 2924 tons of sphalerite; and in 1910, 2113 tons of galena and 7252 tons of sphalerite.

## 5. THE LODES OF THE VELBERT ANTICLINE

### LITERATURE

Die Lintorfer Erzbergwerke, published upon the occasion of the Düsseldorf Industrial Exhibition, 1880.—SCHRADER. 'Das Bleierzvorkommen bei Lintorf,' *Korrespondenzblatt des naturhistorischen Vereins für Rheinland und Westfalen*, 1880, p. 60.—v. GRODDECK. 'Über die Erzgänge bei Lintorf,' *Zeit. für Berg- Hütten- und Salinenwesen*, 1881, XXIX.

<sup>1</sup> Gesellschaft für Bergbau, Blei- und Zinkfabrikation zu Stolberg und in Westfalen.

p. 201.—SCHRADER. 'Die Selbecker Erzbergwerke,' Korrespondenzblatt des naturhistorischen Vereins für Rheinland und Westfalen, 1884.—v. SCHWARZE. Zinkblonde- und Bleierzvorkommen zu Selbeck, 1886.—KÜPPERS. 'Die Erzlagerstätten im Bergrevier Werden am Rhein,' Mitteilungen aus dem Markscheiderwesen, 1892, VI. p. 28.—H. E. BOEKER. 'Die Mineralausfüllung der Querverwerfungsspalten im Bergrevier Werden u.s.w.,' Glückauf, 1906.—E. ZIMMERMANN II. 'Kohlenkalk und Culm des Velberter Sattels im Süden des westfälischen Karbons,' Jahrb. d. k. pr. geol. Landesanst., 1909, II. p. 369.

South of the Westphalian coalfields, upon the Velbert anticline and another Devonian anticline adjoining to the north, these anticlines pitching east under the Carboniferous, occurs a series of metalliferous mines which unfortunately are no longer in operation. These occur not only in the Devonian beds of the anticlinal core but also in the Carboniferous limestone, the silica-schist and alum-slates of the Culm, and in the Millstone Grit. The situation is shown in Fig. 11. The country-rock on the anticlinal limbs strikes north-east, or roughly at right angles to the lodes. These latter are particularly interesting in that they represent the south-easterly continuation of the transverse faults found in the Rhine-Westphalian coalfields. Between these faults and lodes there exists no difference other than that while the latter are in greater part filled with ore and gangue, the former carry but little ore.

The extension of the lodes along the strike has in some cases, as for instance with the Lintorf main lode, been proved for several kilometres. The width similarly may be several metres. The separation between lode and country-rock is generally ill-defined, particularly at Selbeck.

The ore consists of galena, which is very pure and carries but little silver, of sphalerite to a subordinate extent, and a little chalcopryite, while marcasite and pyrite are abundantly present; the gangue-minerals are calcite, dolomite, some barite, and quartz, while in addition fragments of the country-rock are fairly common. The presence of barite is interesting in that these lodes are, comparatively speaking, far from the main barite zone of Westphalia, the occurrence of which zone around Gladbeck, etc., is doubtless referable to the presence of Zechstein and Trias in that locality. Genetically, the country-rock, and particularly the alum-slates, probably played a material part in the ore-deposition.

Mining operations in this district have this technical interest, that the transverse faults crossing the Ruhr and the Rhine carried so much water from these rivers that work had to be stopped. At times the pumps had to raise considerably more than 100 cbm. per minute.

## PÍŽIBRAM IN BOHEMIA

### LITERATURE

- W. VOGELGESANG. 'Die Pížibrámer Erniederlage,' Cotta's Gangstudien, 1850, I. p. 305.  
—E. KLESZOZYNSKI. 'Geschichtliche Notizen über den Bergbau um die Stadt Pížibram,'

Jahrb. d. k. k. Bergakademien V. für 1855.—FR. BABÁNEK. 'Zur Kenntnis der Píbramer Erzgänge,' Österr. Zeitschr. f. d. Berg- und Hüttenwesen, 1878.—J. SCHMID. 'Bilder von den Erzlagerstätten zu Píbrama.' Published by the Minister of Agriculture, Vienna, 1887. Montangeologische Beschreibung des Píbramer Bergbauterrains und der Verhältnisse in der Grube nach dem gegenwärtigen Stande des Aufschlusses in diesem Terrain. Published by the Department of Mines; edited by W. Göbl in 1893.—F. POŠEPNÝ. 'Beitrag zur Kenntnis der montangeologischen Verhältnisse von Píbram,' Arch. f. pr. Geol. II., Freiberg, 1895.—Guide to the International Geological Congress, 1903, I.—A. HOFMANN. 'Neues über das Píbramer Erzvorkommen,' Österr. Zeitschr. für den Berg- und Hüttenwesen, 1906, No. 10.

This silver-lead district is centred around the towns of Píbram and Birkenberg on the left bank of the river Moldau to the south-west of Prague. The country consists of Lower Silurian grauwacke,<sup>1</sup> known by the geological department as the Píbram slates and sandstones, which about 3·5 km. to the south-east of Píbram give place to granite and phyllite. The lowest member of this grauwacke formation is known as the first slate zone. Upon this lies the first sandstone zone, which exhibits synclinal bedding, in consequence of which its westerly dip changes gradually to a steep dip to the east. Then in upward sequence comes the second slate zone, which is arranged fan-like, its beds dipping first to the east and then to the west. This in turn is overlaid by the uppermost member, the second sandstone zone, which dips gently to the west. Beyond this last zone and still towards the centre of the great Bohemian Silurian syncline, the Jinec beds follow conformably.<sup>2</sup>

The rocks of the slate zones are argillaceous-quartzose, argillaceous-micaceous, very fine-grained, and compact slates, the hardness of which depends upon the proportion of quartz present. The rocks of the sandstone zones, on the other hand, are generally grauwacke-sandstones, developed sometimes as conglomerates with quartz pebbles and quartzose or quartzose-argillaceous matrix, and sometimes as more or less fine-grained sandstones. The matrix is variously coloured, in consequence of which the individual beds of the sandstone zones present a variety of appearance.

According to Grimm, the deposition of the first sandstone followed immediately after that of the first slate, the two zones at contact merging into one another. On the other hand, the contact of the first sandstone with the second slate above, is marked by a clay-parting, while along the contact above this again, a sulphide seam was encountered. While this latter is of little significance, the clay-parting forms roughly the north-west boundary of the metalliferous district, and is from one to several decimetres in thickness. It strikes north 60° E. and dips 70° to the north-west. The parting itself is filled with a dark grey to deep black stiff clay and fragments of country-rock. The beds of both zones strike with this parting, but dip in the opposite direction.

<sup>1</sup> The Étage B of Barrande.

<sup>2</sup> The Étage C of Barrande.

All these zones are intruded by many dykes and bosses of greenstone, which strike from north  $15^{\circ}$  W. to north  $30^{\circ}$  E. and are in two series, the Hatě and Birkenberg series respectively. With these dykes the lodes are intimately associated. The greater number and the best, either follow the greenstone in strike and dip, or occur within it or in its immediate vicinity, often in fact at the contact of slate and sandstone.

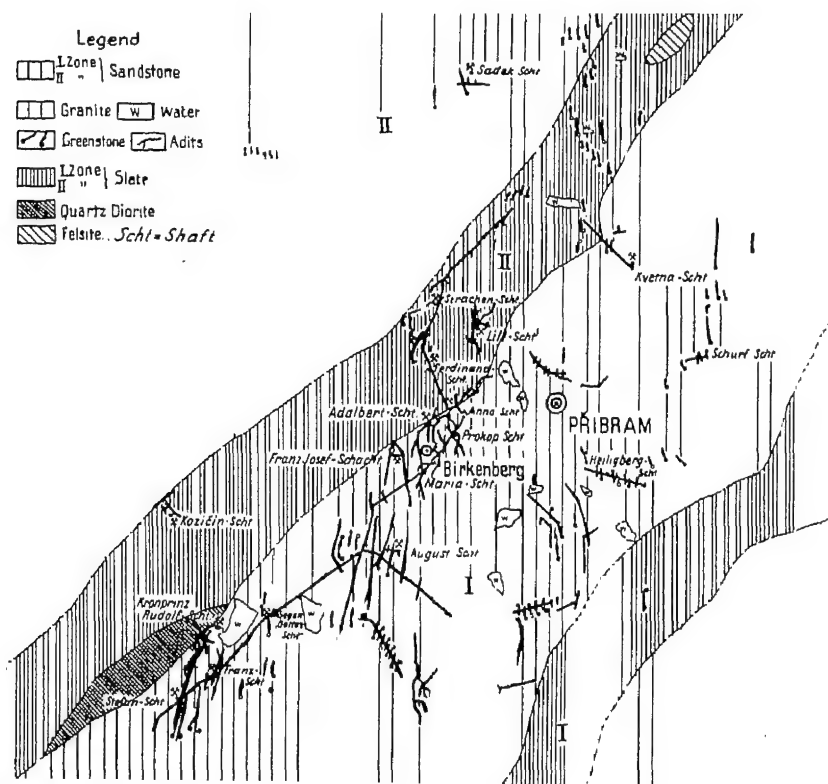


FIG. 341.—Geological map of the Příbram district. Scale, 1:100,000. J. Schmid.

For short distances only do these lodes cross the bedded rocks, and then only to return to the greenstone again. In addition to the dykes accompanied by lodes there are others not so accompanied, and others again which are associated with calcite fissures. In no case has any sort of relation been established between the width of the dyke and the mineralization of the lode found accompanying it.

The lodes are either lead-silver lodes or ironstone lodes. While no work is now done upon the latter, the developments upon the former

may be said to be excellent. The most important lodes are found in the first sandstone zone, those of ironstone occurring upon the flat synclinal limb to the east, while those of lead are limited to the steeply dipping limb to the west. Along such fissures as cross both limbs the passage from one class of lode-filling to the other is gradual. Among the lead lodes those at Birkenberg are the most important. There within a space of 600 m. fourteen greenstone dykes having a total width of 124 m., and nine lodes, have been exposed, some of these latter having been followed for over 1000 m. along the strike and more than 1100 m. in depth, the width being sometimes as much as 10 metres. In the neighbourhood of the clay-parting the lodes split up.

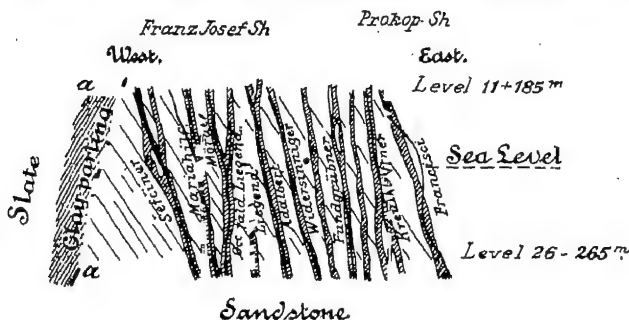
The principal ore consists of argentiferous galena with sphalerite, siderite, and pyrite; and the gangue of calcite, dolomite, quartz, and barite. Less frequently, tetrahedrite, pyrargyrite, proustite, stephanite, native silver, boulangerite, jamesonite, and bournonite, are found. In the poor zones the lode-filling consists essentially of sphalerite, siderite, and calcite, together with fragments of the country-rock and argillaceous schistose material. Although the ore often displays crustification its structure in general is subject to great variation. The term 'lean ore'<sup>1</sup> is applied to those light to dark grey, fine-grained to compact quartzose masses throughout which galena, pyrargyrite, proustite, native silver, stephanite, tetrahedrite, bournonite, boulangerite, etc., are finely distributed. One analysis showed such ore to contain 17·56 per cent of galena with 0·26 per cent silver, 4·79 per cent sphalerite, 17·11 per cent siderite, and 47·65 per cent of quartz. In the Johanni lode, a north-west lode near the Anna shaft, pitchblende occurs in small aggregates of kidney shape and hazel-nut size, along a 2–5 cm. streak in the foot-wall.

The only observed influence of the country-rock upon the lodes is that solid and tough rocks appear to have resisted the formation of the original fissure. The effect produced on the country-rock by the lodes themselves is a limited bleaching and a slight impregnation with small particles of ore, for a width of 10 cm. at most. The lodes of the first slate zone are of no great importance. Those of the second are interesting in that the form of the fissure is different from that in the first sandstone zone to the east, this difference being probably referable to the different character of the two rocks. The Birkenberg lodes, occurring chiefly in the first sandstone zone, extend to the clay-parting, beyond which, as illustrated in Fig. 341, they continue in the slate in the hanging-wall of that parting. In the second sandstone zone no lodes at present are being worked; such as there are contain poor ore, that is, sphalerite, galena, and a little tetrahedrite, with quartzose gangue, in disconnected ore-bodies.

<sup>1</sup> *Dürverz.*

Concerning the silver content of the galena, Hofmann has published much detailed information.<sup>1</sup> It was formerly supposed that the silver in the Adalbert main lode between surface and depth increased from 0.07 to 0.7 per cent, equivalent to 0.063 per cent per 100 metres. The more careful determinations of Hofmann upon clean material have however

*Section shewing relation of greenstone dykes—hatched—to the lodes.*



*Intersections of the lodes with the clay-parting, projected on the plane of that parting.*

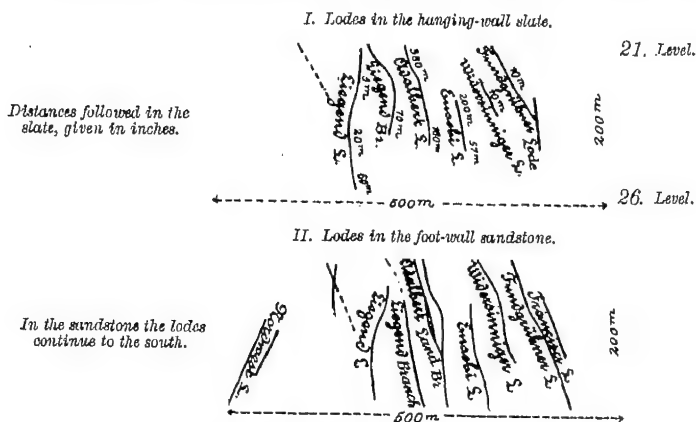


FIG. 342.—Lode sections at Příbram. J. Schmid.

demonstrated that with few exceptions the lead content remains practically constant at 77.5–82.5 per cent for all horizons, while neither the silver content nor the antimony content, which vary between 0.31 and 0.675 per cent, and between 0.32 and 0.86 per cent respectively, show rule or regularity in their variation. The depths over which his investigation relative to the silver was made, extended from 310 m. to 1099 metres.

<sup>1</sup> Österr. Zeit. für Berg- und Hüttenwesen, 1906.



Another interesting fact in connection with the galena of the Adalbert main lode is that it contains tin, the amount varying between 0.02 and 0.2 per cent. This tin content, according to Hofmann, is presumably referable to the presence of stannite; it continues almost to the depth of 1100 metres.

The earliest available records of mining operations at Příbram date from the beginning of the sixteenth century. In the year 1900 the ore won amounted to 300,000 tons, from which a concentrate representing 7.5 per cent of the whole was obtained, this concentrate on treatment having yielded 40,000 kg. of silver and about 5000 tons of lead. In 1910 the output was 47.7 tons of fine silver, 3390 tons of soft lead, 596 tons of antimonial lead, 155 tons of zinc ore, and 50.5 tons of antimony ore. The Adalbert shaft is now approximately 1100 m. deep.

### THE LODES AT LINARES, SPAIN

#### LITERATURE

CARON. 'Bericht über eine Instruktionsreise nach Spanien im Jahre 1878,' *Zeit. für Berg- Hütten- und Salinenwesen*, 1880, XXVIII.—PEDRO DE MESA Y ALVAREZ. 'Memoria sobre la zona minera Linares-La Carolina,' *Revista Minera*. Madrid, 1889.—A. O. WITTELSBACH. 'Fragen und Anregungen, die sich an das Auftreten der Erze im Gangrevier La Carolina-Sta Elena (Spanien) knüpfen,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897.—PAUL F. CHALON. 'Contribution à l'étude des filons de galène de Linares,' *Revue universelle des mines* (4), III., 1903, p. 282.—'Der Bleiglanzbergbau bei Linares-La Carolina in Spanien,' *Berg- und Hüttenm. Ztg.*, 1904, Vol. XLIII.

This very important lead district, 35 km. long in an east-west direction and 30 km. wide from north to south, lies to the south of the Sierra Morena. Geologically it consists of several granite plateaus situated north and east of Linares, which rise like islands through Cambrian and Silurian beds, over which in turn others of the Triassic and Miocene form a more recent covering.

In so far as the ore-deposits are concerned the granite comes most into question, the Palæozoic beds having but little importance in this respect. The deposits are most numerous in the granite mass occurring immediately north of Linares, the lodes there being almost exclusively in the granite. The smaller occurrences around La Carolina and St. Elena lie farther to the north-east, around and within another granite mass. Finally, another occurrence is found at Arquillos east of Linares, the lodes there being also found chiefly in granite. Altogether some 1200–1300 deposits are known, 300 of which were being worked in 1903.

The granite, which is the principal country-rock, has the most varied composition and texture. Granulite is common. The Cambrian and Silurian beds resting upon these eruptive rocks consist of clay-slate, quartzite, arkose-sandstone, and grauwacke.

The strike of the powerful lodes occurring in the granite north of Linares is north-east, with a dip of  $75^{\circ}$ – $90^{\circ}$  to the north-west. A few, and these of poor content, strike east and dip south. The La Cruz and Alamillos lodes, the positions of which are indicated in Fig. 343, are known

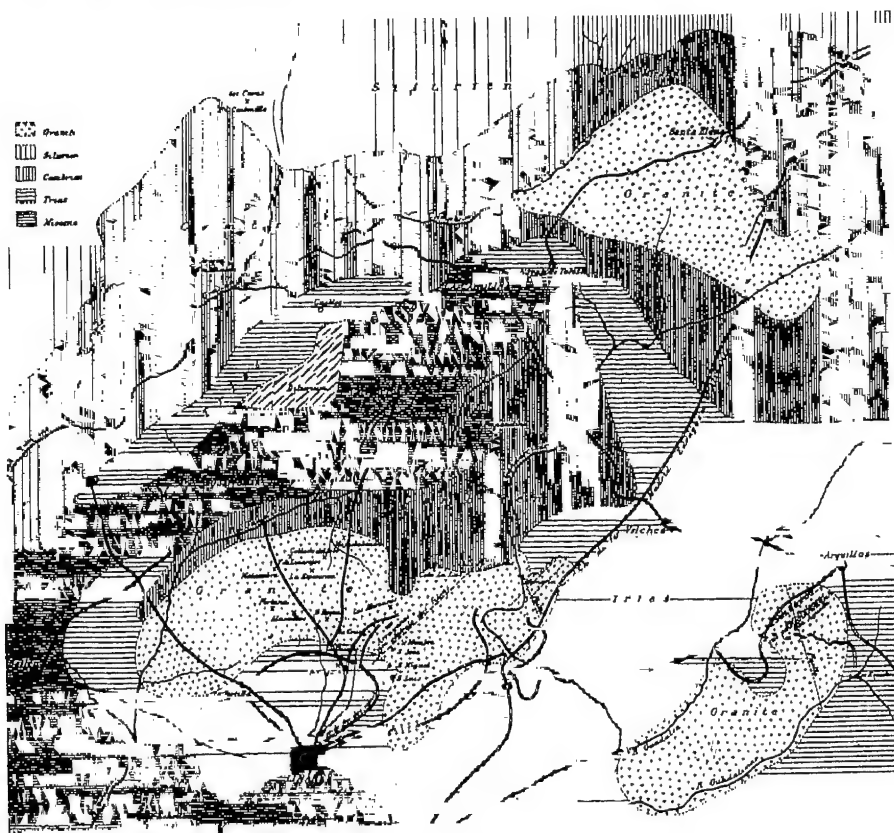


FIG. 343.—Map of the Linares lode district, shewing the positions of Arquillos, La Carolina, and St. Elena. Chalou, *Revue universelle des Mines*.

for 4–6 km. along the strike. The width usually varies up to 2 m., though where a lode is much split it may be as much as 8 metres.

The most important ore is galena, which contains silver up to about 100 grm. per ton; sphalerite, pyrite, and chalcoppyrite are less important. Quartz is the principal gangue, dolomite, barite, and siderite being more uncommon. Fragments of the granite sometimes form a considerable portion of the lode-filling. The copper minerals are somewhat enriched near the surface; at La Cruz such copper ore was formerly mined. Although

In the lode the galena occurs as solid masses, the distribution of these is by no means regular. In the principal mine of Arrayanes near Linares, for instance, ore-bodies of more than 100 m. in length and 1 m. in width alternate with stretches of poorer ore.

At Arquillos, the principal lodes, Las Prolongas and Santa Agueda, likewise strike north-east and dip at a steep angle, to the north or to the south. In width they hardly ever exceed 1.75 metres. The lode-filling is similar to that at Linares, described above.

The lodes at La Carolina and St. Elena, which traverse both slate and granite, generally strike north-west. With these also the principal ore is galena, while sphalerite is subordinate. Chalcopyrite and pyrite are more common. Quartz is the principal gangue-mineral, then barite. A comparison of the silver content with that of the occurrences at Linares is interesting; here it is 600–1000 grm. per ton, or six times as much as at Linares. In depth however it decreases steadily. The average silver content of the entire district is 180 grm. per ton.

This district reached its zenith in 1889, having in that year produced 118,325 tons of lead. In 1909 the production was 78,848 tons, valued at about £400,000, or almost three-fifths of the lead production of Spain.

## THE RADIO-ACTIVE URANIUM LODES

On account of the close and particular association of radium with pitchblende, which mineral is found sometimes with tin ores and sometimes with silver-, silver-gold-, and other ores, the radio-active deposits come within the study of ore-deposits.

Traces of radium are found in the earth's crust, both in the solid rock as well as in the circulating water; a slight radio-activity for instance may be found in almost all household water. As far as our knowledge of radio-active deposits goes, radium is exclusively associated with uranium. All radium lodes are found in granite districts or in slates which have been highly altered by the intrusion of granite. Radium-bearing thor-uranium, including the two minerals bröggerite and cleveite, and other radium and uranium minerals such as fergusonite, are found in the granite-pegmatite dykes of Norway and other countries. Radium and uranium are therefore acid elements.

Fluorite is found not only in uranium-bearing tin lodes but also in lodes, such as those at Joachimsthal, which contain no tin. In all cases however, those in Cornwall included, the close association of uranium ores with sulphide silver ores, less frequently with those of silver-gold,

copper, cobalt, and nickel, is remarkable. Although it is only in Cornwall that tin ores occur with uranium, in other uranium districts such tin ores are found in neighbouring lodes.

From present experience it may therefore be said that those sulphide ores which appear within or in the neighbourhood of tin-bearing granite are possible uranium ores. It is noteworthy that lodes without sulphide ores but with only uranium-mica, do not appear to be promising; should however this mica change in the primary zone to pitchblende, the deposit becomes promising.

According to the latest researches, and particularly the recently published quantitative determinations of Mdlle E. Gleditsch in the laboratory of Madame Curie at Paris, the relation between radium and uranium with most minerals is practically constant. Thus, with the uranium-rich pitchblende of Joachimsthal and of Cornwall, the allied uranium-rich minerals bröggerite and cleveite of the Archaean pegmatite dykes of Norway, and the uranium-poor minerals fergusonite, samarskite, etc., found also in pegmatite dykes, this relation varies between 1 part of uranium to  $3.21 \times 10^{-7}$  and  $3.64 \times 10^{-7}$ , or approximately 1 part of radium to 3 million parts of uranium. With carnotite the potassium-uran-vanadate, autunite the potassium-uranium mica, and chalcocite the copper-uranium mica—these two last being uranium phosphates, while all are to be regarded as often, if not always of secondary formation—the proportion of radium is occasionally relatively lower than this. It is remarkable that the relation between radium and uranium in the bröggerite, cleveite, and fergusonite of the Archaean pegmatite dykes of Norway, etc., varies but little from that obtaining in the pitchblende of the late Carboniferous or Permian lodes of Cornwall, or from that of the approximately contemporaneous lodes at Joachimsthal.

Concerning primary and secondary depth-zones, with ordinary uranium ores it has been observed that uranium ochre and uranium carbonate are both exclusively secondary, that uranium-micas are sometimes primary and sometimes secondary, while pitchblende is entirely primary. At Joachimsthal it may be demonstrated that the pitchblende zone represents a deeper primary zone than that occupied by the cobalt- and nickel ores, while it may be expected that in a few years the nature of primary zone which lies deeper still, will be disclosed in the State mines.

Limited occurrences of uranium, such as are repeatedly found with the silver-lead- and dolomite-lead lodes at Freiberg, are to be distinguished from those which contain uranium in such amount as to be worked especially for that metal. Of such uranium deposits two classes may be formulated, the uranium-tin lodes and the uranium-silver lodes, with or without cobalt and nickel.

## 1. THE URANIUM-TIN LODES OF CORNWALL

## LITERATURE

D. A. MACALISTER. 'Geological Aspect of the Lodes of Cornwall,' *Econ. Geol.* Vol. III., July-Aug. 1908, No. 5.—C. SCHIFFNER. *Radioaktive Wässer in Sachsen, Freiberg*, Part 1, 1908; and Part 2, 1909.—P. KRUSCH. 'Über die nutzbaren Radiumlagerstätten und die Zukunft des Radiummarktes,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1911, p. 83.

The uranium-tin lodes of Cornwall and South Devon have been closely studied. In this district, a description of which has already been given,<sup>1</sup> pitchblende has been demonstrated to be present in several tin- or tin-copper lodes, which in general are distinguished by abundant tourmaline and which occur partly within and partly in the vicinity of granite. The uranium mine at Grampound, which is associated with the third granite mass reckoned from the east,<sup>2</sup> is particularly rich in uranium ore, of which it produces on an average some 20–30 tons yearly. From 1896 to 1906 the output, which in 1907 was 72 tons, varied between 6 and 105 tons, this wide range indicating the irregularity of the ore. These figures, it must be noted, are not on a basis for comparison with those of other districts, since the percentage of uranium contained is not given.

2. THE URANIUM-SILVER-NICKEL-COBALT LODS AT JOACHIMSTHAL,  
BOHEMIA

## LITERATURE

FR. BABÁNEK. Beschreibung der geologisch-bergmännischen Verhältnisse der Joachimsthaler Erzlagerstätten in geologisch-bergmännische Karte mit Profilen von Joachimsthal u.s.w. Vienna, 1891.—J. STEP und F. BECKE. 'Das Vorkommen des Uranpecherzes zu St. Joachimsthal,' *Sitzungsbericht der Akademie der Wissenschaften*, Vol. CXIII. Part 1. Vienna, 1904.—P. KRUSCH. 'Über die nutzbaren Radiumlagerstätten und die Zukunft des Radiummarktes,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1911, p. 83.

Lodes carrying uranium have long been known in the Bohemian and Saxon Erzgebirge, the number of late years, in consequence of the attention turned to radium, having considerably increased. The occurrence around Joachimsthal, which is the richest and has been most studied, is particularly important. It is worked partly by the State and partly by the Edelleutstollen Gesellschaft. It occurs in a crystalline schistose country closely associated with granite and consisting principally of gneiss, mica-schist, amphibolite, etc. The so-called Joachimsthal slates are regarded as particularly rich in uranium ore.<sup>3</sup> Of these, the relation between the petrographically differing complexes does not appear to have been sufficiently determined to allow any statement of relative age to be formulated.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 431-436.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 432.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 682.

The lodes, of which there are a considerable number, form two separate systems, one striking north-south and the other east-west. While the latter generally complete their length without disturbance, the former are in most cases found in displaced sections. The investigation of Krusch upon the property of the Edelleutstollen Gesellschaft showed that lode deflections and not faults were the cause of this discontinuity, and that the east-west lode-system was older than the north-south. The irregularity in the direction in which the sections of the north-south system are displaced is thus explained.

Generally the north-south lodes are richer than the east-west. Silver-, cobalt-, and nickel ores are frequent. With these ores pitchblende occurs, equal in value though less in amount. It was formerly supposed that the pitchblende was exclusively limited to the north-south lodes; recent developments however have established its presence in the east-west lodes also, though these remain substantially poorer in uranium than the north-south.

With the north-south lodes carbonates form the greater portion of the gangue; with the east-west lodes quartz occurs in addition. According to Step and Becke the sequence in age is: quartz, the oldest, uranium ore and dolomite, the youngest. It is interesting and characteristic that near the aggregates of pitchblende both the dolomite and calcite become reddish brown in colour, a fact of use as an indicator to the occurrences of pitchblende, these often being quite isolated.

Pitchblende is often more abundant at the intersections of the east-west with the north-south lodes. Frequently the uranium ore is found in close association with slate; in such cases it occurs either as the oldest crust enveloping a fragment of slate, or separated from the slate only by an earlier crust of quartz, an observation which appears to have been first made by Step.

In general the sulphide and sulph-arsenide silver-, cobalt-, and nickel ores represent a higher primary zone than the uranium ores. As before mentioned, it is probable that within the next few years it will be ascertained, at least at places in the State mines, what primary zone follows the uranium ores in still greater depth.

The pitchblende is not regularly distributed throughout the lode, but occurs in veins and lenses in closest association with the brown or reddish-brown carbonates. It is also frequently found impregnated in slate, such impregnation having proceeded from fractures.

At Joachimsthal, exact determinations are available not only of the uranium content of the ore but also of its radio-activity. This latter varies fairly regularly with the uranium content, being usually, according to the investigations of Professor H. W. Schmidt of Giessen, between 0.233 and

373 mgrm. per kilogramme of pitchblende. It may be said that 1 kg. of pitchblende, containing 60 per cent of  $U_3O_8$ , develops a radio-activity corresponding to 0.333 mgrm. of radium bromide, popularly known as radium.

These mines are in the position to produce annually 14–20 tons of ore<sup>1</sup> containing on an average 55 per cent  $U_3O_8$ . It is noteworthy that the ore is treated first for uranium products which do not contain radium. The radium therefore becomes concentrated in the residues which in consequence possess a radio-activity three or four times that of the original ore.

### 3. URANIUM-SILVER-GOLD LODES, GILPIN COUNTY, COLORADO

#### LITERATURE

FORBES RICKARD. 'Notes on the Vein-Formation and Mining of Gilpin County, Colorado,' Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng., 1898, p. 108.

This highly metamorphosed district consists of gneiss-granite, granitite, orthogneiss-granite, granulite, felsite, and pegmatite, with all intermediate gradations; and of mica-, talc-, and hornblende-schists with well-defined schistosity. A point of interest in this rock-assembly is, that the gradual passage of granite through gneiss to schistose rocks may be observed. The lodes, which belong to the young gold-silver group,<sup>2</sup> are true fissure-fillings; along their planes some little faulting has in many cases taken place. The separation from the country-rock is usually well defined and sharp. The lode-filling is characterized by a considerable gold-silver content, these two metals being so arranged that a western zone containing gold more particularly, may be differentiated from an eastern one containing silver, though all gradations from one to the other are found. According to the strike two intersecting systems may be distinguished, one striking east and the other north-east.

The ore generally consists of argentiferous and auriferous pyrite and some chalcopyrite, with felspar and quartz as gangue. Smelting ore, consisting of compact pyrite with some chalcopyrite, is usually kept separate from milling ore, which is a white or yellow mixture of felspar and quartz impregnated with the same sulphides; the weight relation between these two classes of ore is roughly as 1 : 20. Native bismuth and arsenic, though they occur, are uncommon; the former is often associated with stibnite. Arsenopyrite and other arsenical ores likewise occur. The presence of tellurium, apparently in connection with the gold, is significant. The occurrence of pitchblende is just as definite as that of the other primary

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 682.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 556, 557.

ores, though its distribution is very irregular. It is found and exploited particularly in the Wood and Kirk mines at Leavenworth Gulch.

Changes in the lode-filling have here been observed to be coincident with change of dip, such changes being followed sometimes by enrichment and sometimes by impoverishment, the general impression being that the deposits when steeper are poorer. Intersections of lodes of the two systems are usually associated with enrichment; not infrequently a sort of pseudo-intersection or deviation is observed where, shortly before the two lodes come together, they diverge again.

With some of these lodes the maintenance of the gold-silver content in depth is remarkable. It would appear as if the fissure-fillings, whether at the surface they were rich or poor, maintain their character in depth. If such be the case, then the cementation and oxidation zones can have caused no material migration of the metal content. The former reaches generally to but 40–80 feet from the surface, though exceptionally, as in the Carr mine, it may reach as much as 200 feet. The tetrahedrite is probably to be regarded as a cementation ore.

It is worthy of remark that several tons of uranium ore from the Wood mine were sold to Swansea, England, in the early days of uranium production, where they fetched a high price; with a larger output following a larger demand, a considerable profit might therefore be obtained. Generally however the pitchblende ore of Gilpin County is not rich, and the United States therefore is under the necessity of importing uranium salts.

Concerning the radium production, at present only the deposits at Joachimsthal may be expected to produce regularly. Experience has shown that the pitchblende treated gives approximately one-third of its weight as residue. In the future these deposits will presumably be in a position to deliver yearly 1.8 gm. of radium salt of maximum activity, of which the present price for 1 gm. is approximately £16,000. Radium, that is to say, its salt, differs from the ordinary metals in that practically speaking it is not consumed by use, while with all ordinary metals a considerable proportion disappears annually. With radium therefore a regular production means an equally regular increase in the amount of radium available. It is of interest to learn that Madame S. Curie recently succeeded in producing the element radium.



## THE METASOMATIC LEAD-SILVER-ZINC DEPOSITS

THE formation of the metasomatic lead-silver-zinc deposits has already been discussed in the introductory portion of this work. We know that these occurrences are associated with easily alterable limestones and dolomites, and that they are limited to no particular geological age. The primary ores of this class were formed by a metasomatic replacement of limestone and dolomite by galena and sphalerite, such replacement only very exceptionally being complete. It is generally the case that a more or less far-reaching impregnation has proceeded from channels along which heavy-metal solutions obtained access, such channels being either transgressive fissures, bedding-planes, or joint-planes. Apart from this primary formation, the secondary processes of oxidation have often led to extremely important concentrations of the primarily deposited heavy minerals.

In the chapter upon ores it was explained that at oxidation galena became changed to oxidized lead ores, and sphalerite to oxidized zinc ores, and that among these the carbonate and silicate of zinc played an especially important part in lead-zinc deposits. Galena and sphalerite however do not with equal ease become altered to their respective oxidation products; when the zinc sulphide has become completely altered to the carbonate and silicate, but a small portion of the galena has been altered to anglesite, cerussite, etc., the larger portion remaining still undecomposed. While with the other lead-zinc deposits the oxidation zone plays no great part, with the metasomatic occurrences it often forms the principal ore-bodies. A cementation zone is usually only present in so far that the galena in that zone is more argentiferous than the ore of the primary zone, which in most cases is unpayable. With these deposits therefore arises the singular case of the oxidation zone forming the actual useful deposit.

This secondary concentration, particularly of the zinc content in metasomatic deposits, results in greater part from 'oxidation-metasomatism.'<sup>1</sup> Krusch understands by this term the subsequent replacement of the country-rock by the action of those heavy-metal solutions which were

<sup>1</sup> Krusch, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1910.

formed in the deposit by the entry of oxygenated meteoric waters. If limestone form the country-rock this limestone by such solutions is metasomatically changed to ore. If this process long continue and large quantities of metal thus be brought to one particular limestone bed, a richly metalliferous deposit may be formed even when the primary occurrence was poor in heavy-metal. It is easy therefore to realize that in the formation of the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits oxidation-metasomatism is of more than ordinary importance. Since neither the primary nor the secondary alteration of the limestone has anything to do with its geological age but these alterations depend entirely upon certain chemical-geological properties of the rock, it is often the case that in a limestone formation only particular layers have been transformed to ore, these layers being limited above and below by others not suited to such transformation.

When studying such deposits the stratigraphist who has busied himself little with the science of ore-deposits is very liable to lay stress upon the conformity, and to regard the deposits as ore-beds, conformity being the essential characteristic of such beds. With metasomatic deposits, on the other hand, from the manner of their formation, an association with limestone and dolomite is the principal characteristic. In all districts therefore where these two rocks are uncommon or confined to one particular geological horizon, such deposits if formed must exhibit a certain conformity, though they are essentially epigenetic. This conformity being generally qualified and limited may be best described as a pseudo-conformity.

The relation between the mineralization and dolomitization is particularly interesting. Although with some metasomatic lead-zinc occurrences the ore occurs exclusively in limestone without dolomite, this latter rock is often present, sometimes even to the exclusion of limestone. The existence of this dolomite as the result of the dolomitization of limestone, may often be established, such dolomitization being effected by the metasomatic action of solutions containing  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{MgCO}_3$  upon the limestone. The extent of such dolomitization in nature is sometimes stupendous and expressive of one of the most far-reaching chemical-geological phenomena known.

In many cases the dolomitization shows itself to be somewhat older than the mineralization, so that two stages in the ore-deposition may be distinguished, namely, the metasomatic replacement of the limestone by dolomite, and the metasomatic replacement of the dolomite, chiefly by galena and sphalerite. Even in such cases however, the time-interval between these two stages was probably so small that they may be considered as part of one and the same chemical-geological phenomenon.

Concerning the shape of the deposit, two types of metasomatic deposit are usually distinguished, namely, that with complete alteration of the

original rock, when the shape greatly resembles that of a bed, as often happens with metasomatic iron deposits; and that with incomplete alteration, when the tendency is to form ore-bodies following the channels of access; such deposits may either exhibit transgressive bedding, or they may follow the bedding-planes or joint-planes.

To the second type many of the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits belong, and it is therefore easily understood that rich concentrations of ore are found more particularly where two channel-systems intersect. Though science may formulate types, Nature expresses herself in gradation. Cases of metasomatic lead-zinc deposits do occur where individual layers have in places been completely altered to ore, as for instance in the Beuthen and Tarnowitz synclines in Upper Silesia. With such as these the question has always arisen whether they were sedimentary ore-beds, or whether they were metasomatic occurrences where one bed had been completely mineralized. In any particular case this question can only be settled when, as was the case a few years ago in Upper Silesia, the channels along which the solutions rose, are discovered.

In those cases where limestone alternates with slate the ore generally becomes deposited at the contact of these two rocks, particularly when the lower bed is slate, which being impermeable prevents the further descent of the solutions and holds them in long contact with the limestone. Should the solutions in such cases finally escape along faults, the intersections of such faults with the limestone-slate contact would be particularly good places to look for ore. Generally therefore the shape of the lead-zinc deposits is irregular. When prospecting for these metasomatic occurrences it is accordingly well to remember that on the one hand they are associated with the distribution of limestone, and on the other with zones of fracture and disturbance. This association is illustrated in Fig. 6.

Concerning extension in strike and dip, no generally applicable rule can be formulated. It is realized that fissures of great length are usually also of great depth, nevertheless, the metasomatic deposits though closely connected with fissures need by no means occur along the whole extent of such fissures. Not infrequently these deposits are associated with irregular cavities which, formed before the ascent of the metal solutions by meteoric waters rich in carbonic acid, afterwards became filled with ore. The distribution of these cavities or chambers often appears to be capricious and conformable to no law.

The indications of metasomatic lead-zinc deposits at the surface are of great importance in prospecting and exploration. Where the limestone is not covered by thick detritus, they are relatively easily discovered by means of the distinctive colouring to which they give rise. The sulphides

of lead and zinc always contain more or less iron, which by oxidation is converted to limonite. Since, in addition, pyrite and marcasite are generally present and these also become altered to limonite, the limestone in the neighbourhood of such a deposit is often transformed by oxidation-metasomatism into iron ore. In but few cases is the deposit quite free from iron, or without galena, or with the zinc sulphide represented by white schalenblende—fine-grained wurtzite or sphalerite, or a mixture of both minerals, generally exhibiting highly developed crusted structure. In such cases it would be difficult at first to recognize the zinc deposit. When therefore in limestone districts masses more or less earthy and remarkable for their high specific gravity occur, it is advisable to look for zinc. The flame coloration test would then be sufficient.

The filling of the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits so far as ore is concerned, consists chiefly of zinc sulphide, galena, and pyrite or marcasite. The zinc sulphide occurs both in the form of sphalerite as also often in that of schalenblende; indeed, the comparative study of the world's zinc deposits shows that schalenblende is almost limited to deposits of this type. It is noteworthy also that this mineral is not only found as a metasomatic product associated with the alteration of limestone, but also as a chamber-filling. What property of the solution, or what particular circumstance of precipitation caused the zinc sulphide to be precipitated as schalenblende in metasomatic deposits, while in lodessphalerite is almost exclusively found, has not yet been possible of determination. The colour of schalenblende, like that of sphalerite, varies in proportion to its iron content. It is interesting that with schalenblende particularly, whitish or very light coloured layers are often found practically free from iron. Since with these metasomatic deposits schalenblende is usually more abundant than sphalerite, the oxidized ores associated with them have chiefly resulted from this form of zinc sulphide; schalenblende is also apparently more readily changed to cellular oxidized ores than is sphalerite. Concerning pyrite and marcasite, it is noteworthy that with these deposits marcasite occurs strikingly often and sometimes in large quantity, while pyrite on the other hand recedes. All other ore-minerals are subordinate.

Among the gangue-minerals barite is the most common. Since this mineral is also characteristic of the metasomatic occurrences of other metals, it must doubtless be referable to the barium content of the altered limestone. As was pointed out in the chapter on mineral formation, the smallest amount of barium in the presence of sulphuric acid suffices in the course of time to build up the largest masses. That calcite is frequent and often occurs as the youngest filling, is natural, in view of the calcareous nature of the country-rock. The occurrence of blue anhydrite in some of these deposits is particularly interesting.

The most common rock inclusions are of limestone and dolomite. Experience of these deposits has taught that such inclusions, even with incomplete alteration of the primary bed, can in themselves constitute ore-deposits. On the other hand, when fissure-systems of different strike and dip intersect, at such intersections blocks of limestone more or less large may become involved as rock inclusions and yet be in their original position and remain unaltered.

Everything considered, it may be said that the particular characteristics of the filling of these deposits are, the preponderance of oxidized zinc ores; the occurrence of the primary sulphides, schalenblende, and marcasite; and the occasional presence of anhydrite.

In addition to these differences between the filling of the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits and that of lodes; there are others no less definite in the manner the minerals and rocks forming these deposits are intergrown. With the metasomatic deposits the most perfect examples of crustification are met, such as were formed when metal solutions entering cavities deposited ore all round the walls. In addition, concentric crustification of stalactitic and stalagmitic growth, each outside layer being younger than those inside, is found. In the arrangement of the different crusts the frequent alternation of schalenblende with marcasite, such as is illustrated in Fig. 125, is striking. The wide distribution of a cellular structure is also worthy of notice, such structure resulting when schalenblende is altered to cellular oxidized ores. Finally, a pseudo-brecciated structure, resulting from the above-described imperfect alteration of the limestone to ore, is extensive and frequent.

The oxidized iron ores which now and then make their appearance in payable quantity in these deposits, owe their formation to the decomposition of the marcasite or pyrite.

Primary depth-zones play little part with many of these deposits, since often the oxidation zone only is mined, the primary zone being workable in but few cases. It must however be particularly remarked that, as with the lodes, where work is undertaken in the primary zone, an upper zone of lead ore may occasionally be distinguished from a deeper zone of zinc. This, for instance, is often the case in Upper Silesia, where in many mines two beds are worked, whereof in isolated cases the upper carries galena chiefly while the lower carries sphalerite, the intervening limestone having apparently been unsuited to any such alteration. The part played by secondary depth-zones in metasomatic deposits was particularly mentioned at the beginning of this description, when discussing the formation of these deposits.

The silver content deserves one or two remarks. Since mining in most cases proceeds in the oxidation zone only, and the primary deposits

are relatively but little worked, the silver content of these ores is subject to great fluctuation. The oxidation zone is usually poor in silver, and consequently in many cases but little of this precious metal is found in oxidized deposits. The silver content is occasionally higher in districts where primary ores are mined, the galena of Upper Silesia for instance having a high silver content. In such deposits it fluctuates in like manner to its occurrence in the galena of the sulphide lead-zinc lodes.

The geological age of the altered limestone, as will be seen from the following statement, varies greatly :

Locality or Name of Deposit.	Formation in which the Ores occur.
Laurion in part.	Cretaceous.
Upper Silesia, Wiesloch, and Carinthia.	Triassic.
Aachen, Leadville in part, Missouri.	Carboniferous.
Leadville in part, Iserlohn, Schwelm.	Devonian.
Sardinia, Leadville in part, Mississippi.	Silurian.
Eureka.	Cambrian.
Laurion in part, Sala.	Fundamental schists.

The deposits are mostly considerably younger than the formations in which they occur; at Laurion, for instance, the occurrences in the fundamental schists are late- or post-Cretaceous, while those at Leadville and Eureka, in Palæozoic limestone or dolomite, are late Mesozoic. On the other hand, the deposits at Sala are very old, namely Archaean, and with this great age the abnormal character of the mineral-association is probably connected. Owing to the close genetic connection between metasomatic lead-zinc deposits and lead-zinc lodes, the same experiences in regard to the age of the primary ore generally apply to both. Thus, with the deposits in Germany there are two periods of ore-deposition, late Carboniferous and Tertiary. The formation of the oxidation ores, so important with the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits, may have begun immediately after the deposition of the primary ore, and have continued right to the present.

Since with these deposits the most important ore, zinc carbonate, is formed by oxidation, it is found almost invariably above the present ground-water level; the primary sulphide ores existing in greater depth are often unpayable so that many mines cease work at that level, and in consequence most mines working metasomatic deposits reach only to depths of a few hundred metres. At Aachen for instance, mining is proceeding at depths of 300 m., in Upper Silesia at 100 m., at Iserlohn at 200 m., at Bleiberg at about 400 m., and at Sala at about 300 metres. The question of the economic importance of the metasomatic lead-zinc deposits is further discussed at the end of the description of these deposits.

## UPPER SILESIA

## LITERATURE

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The lead-zinc ores of Upper Silesia occur interbedded in the Muschelkalk, the limestone division of the great German Triassic basin. This limestone forms a belt 10–20 km. wide and more than 80 km. long, which, striking east-west, extends from Krappitz on the river Oder, through Gogolin

Olkusz in Russian Poland, along which extent its surface continuity in places broken by coverings of younger beds. On the other side of the Russian frontier this belt turns south-east and south, in which direction extreme outliers are found in the neighbourhood of Czerna in Galicia. Tectonically, it rests with gentle northern dip upon the Bunter of the Triassic and the Rotliegendes of the Permian, these in turn lying unconformably upon Carboniferous beds. It is only the southern outliers of this belt which, on both sides of the frontier as well as in Galicia, are ore-bearing.

At Tarnowitz, the Tarnowitz syncline with a north-south strike and some 20 km. wide, branches from the main belt. To this in turn is attached the Beuthen syncline some 7 km. wide; which, between Mikulthütz, Miechowitz, and Dombrowka, strikes sometimes east and sometimes south-east. This latter syncline, illustrated in Fig. 152, extends over Beuthen, across the frontier to Czeladz, Bendzin, and as far as Klimontow in Russian Poland, when after a short break it continues to Długoszczyń and Rakowa, situated in the synclinal subsidence of Chrzanów and Trzebinia, in Galicia. To the north, between Ptakowitz and Stollarzowitz, an anticlinal fold of the older beds exposes two secondary synclines, the Trockenberg to the north and the Miechowitz to the south. According to Beyschlag and

# Geological Sketch Map. showing position of the Upper Silesian Ore-deposits

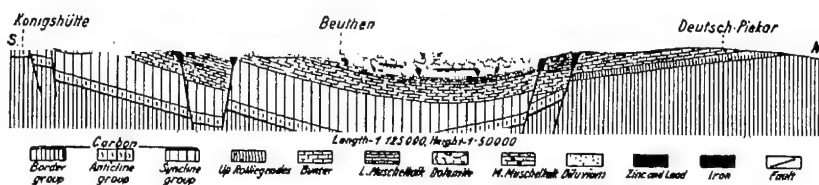
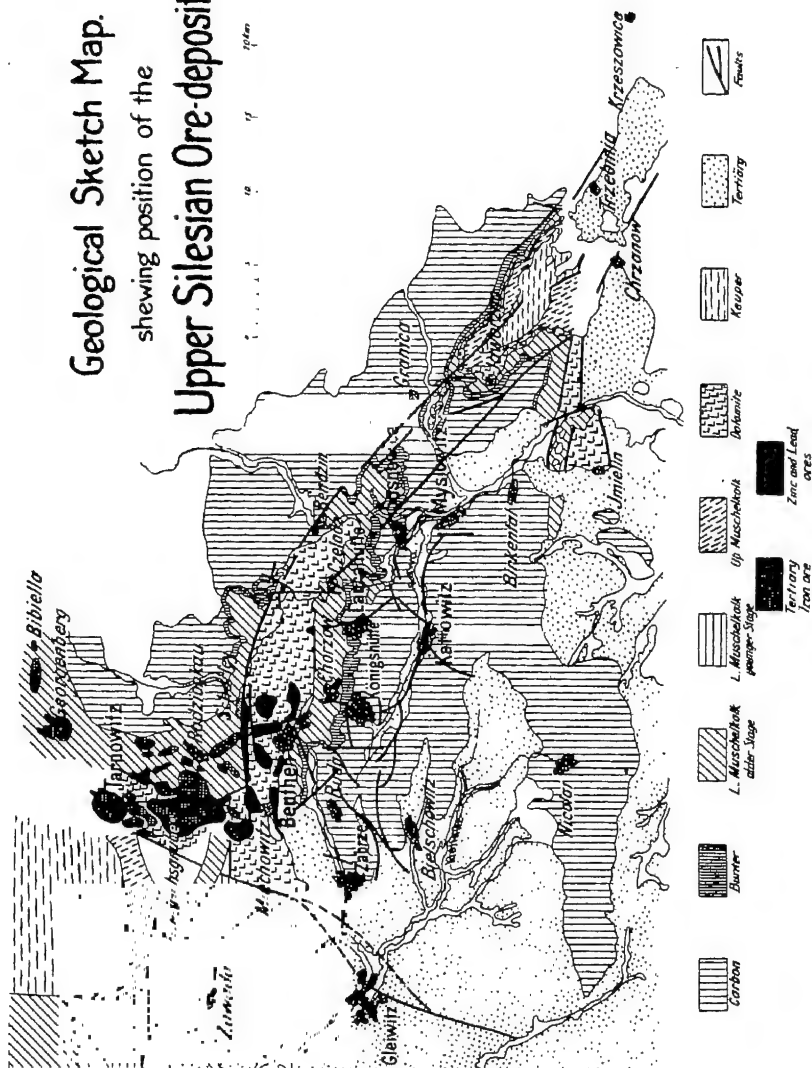


FIG. 344.—Geologic-tectonic map and diagrammatic section of the Upper Silesian lead-zinc district. Michael and Quitzow.



Michael, this synclinal disposition of the beds is caused in greater part by faulting, in which case the expression synclinal subsidence better expresses the tectonics than would the term syncline.

The country between and around Tarnowitz, Miechowitz, Beuthen, Scharley, and Gr. Dombrowka, embraces the principal extension of the deposits. Smaller and less important occurrences are found in the eastern districts wherever dolomite occurs; in Russia at Boleslaw and Olkusz, and in Galicia at Szakowa and Trzebinia; the only one of these worthy of note is that of galena and zinc oxidized ore in the Matilde mine west of Chrzanow in Galicia.

The Triassic beds south of the large anticlinal uplift of the Coal formation from Zabrze to Myslowitz, are without apparent connection with the occurrences now being described. In general with them no extensive mineralization is known; only those beds to the south of Myslowitz the continuity of which is broken by repeated appearance of the Carboniferous basement, show in their dolomitic members any traces of ore.

In the whole Upper Silesian district the surface of the Muschelkalk is the result of erosion is most accidented. In pre-Tertiary or early Tertiary time running waters furrowed this limestone in the most extraordinary manner, so that to-day, freed from the softening contours of any Diluvial or Tertiary covering, it constitutes the feature of an extensively incised landscape. It is probable that at that time also, waters circulating along planes of bedding and fracture effected the alteration of particular beds of the Muschelkalk to ore. Before, however, going more fully into this question it is well to describe the development of that formation itself.

So far as the ore is concerned only the Lower Muschelkalk, some 120 m. thick and known more particularly as the Wellenkalk, comes into question. This is divided into two stages, the Lower or Wellenkalk proper, which practically coincides with the Chorzow beds in the early classification of Eck; and the Upper Wellenkalk, formerly known as the Schaumkalk. The cavernous limestone formerly regarded by Eck as the base of the Muschelkalk, belongs to the calcareous and dolomitic members of the Upper Bunter, these members occupying a thickness of about 55 metres. The uppermost beds of the Wellenkalk proper, some 7 m. thick and easily recognizable during development by their colour and contained fossils, are often known as the blue floor-limestone. The Upper Wellenkalk in Upper Silesia is variously developed; in the Oder river district it is calcareous, in that of the Weichsel on the other hand it is dolomitic. In the Beuthen, Tarnowitz, Laurahütte, and Zabrze sections of the Geological Survey the whole sequence of the Muschelkalk is given as follows:

Upper Muschelkalk, about 30 m.

Middle Muschelkalk, about 16 m.

Upper Wellenkalk	{	Diplopora dolomite.	} Ore-bearing dolomite about 75 m.
		Karchowitz beds.	
		Terebratella beds.	
		Gorasz beds.	
Lower or Wellenkalk proper	{	Wellenkalk.	} About 45 m.
		Marl limestone.	
		Second Wellenkalk.	
		Conglomerate bands.	
		Cellular limestone.	
		First Wellenkalk.	
		Pecten and Dacrydium limestone.	

The presence of ore is peculiar to the dolomite of the Upper Wellenkalk. This dolomite exhibits so many characteristics in common with the contemporaneous calcareous beds, the Gorasz, Terebratella, and Karchowitz beds exposed in the Drama valley and at Mikultschütz, that its secondary formation from limestone along fissures carrying ground-water must be assumed.

Contrary to experience in the Carboniferous beds below, faults have been established only in small number in the Upper Silesian Muschelkalk. In addition to the frequent pre-Triassic disturbances in the Carboniferous, however, younger disturbances have also undoubtedly been observed in the Triassic and in the ore-beds, which must be regarded as the upper continuations of similar faults in the Carboniferous beneath.

The ore-bodies, consisting essentially of galena, sphalerite, zinc carbonate, zinc hydrosilicate, and marcasite, are found in the deeper portions of the synclines, and apparently quite irregularly distributed in the altered dolomite bed. Rich sections alternate indiscriminately with others carrying but little or no ore. These rich sections are connected with fissures and are found not only in the neighbourhood of the strike-faults, but particularly along the north-south transverse faults which reach to the Coal-measures below. Often ore-bodies are found at two horizons, one being then either immediately above the blue floor and separated from it only by a bed of pyritic clay, or separated further by a dolomite bed 1-2 m. thick known as the floor-dolomite. The second ore-bed then occurs in the mass of the dolomite, sometimes 20 m. above the first. It is however regular neither in character nor position, while, as pointed out by Althaus, in the Trockenberg syncline it is entirely absent; in fact it only appears under especially favourable conditions, and is then always connected with the lower bed by ore-bearing fissures.

When two beds occur no material difference in composition between the two may be observed. Nowhere can any regular recurrence in deposition, any fixed sequence between galena, sphalerite, and marcasite, be recognized.

Both deposits may be purely of lead ore, as in the Tarnowitz syncline, and then seldom more than 1 m. thick and very discontinuous; or predominatingly of zinc ore, as in the Beuthen syncline, and then up to 12 m. in thickness and more continuous. The whole thickness is in no case however made up exclusively of ore, but generally of a mixture of ore and dolomite. At the outcrop both beds appear to unite to form one body, which in places may reach a width of 20 metres. In such cases the ore consists chiefly of a red ferruginous zinc ore with some cerussite and earthy lead ore. When it descends into the funnels and crevices in the limestone floor, as illustrated in Fig. 166, it becomes more and more clayey, the amount of iron at the same time decreasing. On account of its lighter colour such altered material is spoken of as white zinc ore.

Clean galena occurs more particularly in the Tarnowitz syncline but also in the Trockenberg syncline, partly in the form of narrow compact layers and partly as irregular masses and nests. The thickness of the ore-bearing layer is usually about 0.25 m. to 0.5 m., though exceptionally it may reach 2 metres. Around Tarnowitz, in the Friedrich mine for instance, a soft galena layer is distinguished from a solid galena layer. In the former the galena occurs as plates and masses in clay, filling the bedding- and joint-planes of the dolomite; in the latter it occurs solidly intergrown with the dolomite, either as a thin bed or as stringers and aggregates. The solid layers represent the original condition, from which along the outcrop the soft layers have resulted by weathering. The silver content of the galena varies between 0.025 and 0.048 per cent. Traces of copper, antimony, and gold have been disclosed by analyses of furnace products. The usual associates of the galena are cerussite and marcasite, and in addition in the Friedrich mine the rare tarnowitzite, a variety of aragonite containing 10 per cent of lead.<sup>1</sup>

The ore-bed consists of friable, earthy, finely-crystalline, and fibrous sphalerite, or of schalenblende, the latter often appearing in stalactitic form in layers alternating with others of galena and marcasite. Not infrequently a mixture of sphalerite with the carbonates of lime, magnesia, iron, and zinc occurs, such being known as dolomitic sphalerite. This mixture is found for instance in the Neue Helene, Cäcilie, and Bleischarley mines. In addition, the red and white zinc ores already mentioned as contaminated by dolomite, clay, and iron oxide, are of great importance. Their structure and intergrowth with sphalerite indicates their derivation from this primary ore. Pyrite and marcasite are constant associates of the zinc, to the detriment of the value of the deposit; sometimes they predominate.

Beds of cleaner sphalerite are found on the northern limb of the

<sup>1</sup> Websky, 'Über die Kristallform des Tarnowitzits,' *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.* Vol. IX. p. 737.

Beuthen syncline, in the Cäcilie and Neue Helene mines. Such beds rarely attain a thickness above 2 metres. They are distinguished by their purity and the considerable amount of contained galena. At the outcrop they are altered to red oxidized ore, some pieces of which though outwardly identical with the others, consist of schalenblende or galena inside. In places on this same north limb an upper ore-bed of varying thickness has also been worked. This lies some 30 m. above the sphalerite bed and reaches about 1 m. in thickness.

Around the margin of the syncline a thick bed of red oxidized ore occurs, which in the Cäcilie, Scharley, and Wilhelmine mines is in places 20 m. thick, and in the foot-wall passes over to white ore. On the south side of the syncline also, in the Therese, Apfel, Maria, and Elisabeth mines, this bed, though more irregular, is almost as important. In these mines ore is often found in funnel-shaped bodies extending downwards from the main deposit into the limestone.

Beds of earthy limonite, contaminated by clay, lime, and dolomite, and mixed with zinc oxidized ore, galena, and cerussite, occur either as independent layers of varying thickness, or as part of the above-mentioned lead-zinc occurrences. Such limonite is seen more particularly in the funnel-shaped bodies which penetrate the limestone floor, and also at the outcrop. In this connection it must be mentioned that the dolomite in the roof of the ore-bed has in many places been denuded, and that loose Miocene marine deposits or Diluvial formations now cover the bed. At such denudation the ore-bed itself was naturally more or less eroded and disturbed.

Leaving out of consideration the theories formerly advanced that these deposits were contemporaneous with the dolomite, or that they were formed by the concentration of metalliferous material formerly finely distributed throughout the Muschelkalk, it remains only to more closely discuss the present generally accepted theory of the subsequent introduction of the ore. It may be regarded as certain that here, as with the analogous deposits at Aachen, Wiesloch, Monteponi, Raibl, and Laurion, the ores were originally deposited as sulphides, from which, subsequently and by the action of circulating meteoric waters, the oxidized ores were formed; numerous pieces of ore with sphalerite or galena inside and zinc carbonate or cerussite outside, most clearly demonstrate this derivation. Further, it may be regarded as established that the ores were deposited from solutions which, circulating within the Muschelkalk beds, effected their dolomitization. At the same time a gradual replacement of the limestone by ore took place, as well as a crusted deposition in chambers previously formed by the dissolution of the dolomite and limestone. The not-infrequent occurrence of stalactites and the abundant occurrence of schalenblende indicate this latter manner of formation. The pocket-like occurrence

of the ore in holes like pot-holes in the limestone floor, suggests rapidly flowing water. The apparent limitation of the ore-beds to one or two often well-maintained horizons is adequately explained both by the physical behaviour of these particular beds towards the inflowing water, as well as by the presence in them of material which acted reducingly towards the metals in solution. Against solid compact layers such water would be impounded. Where several of such layers occurred several ore-beds would be formed one above the other, in number corresponding to the number of such water reservoirs. At the same time the bitumen, which is still discernible in some beds, may have acted as the agent whereby the sulphates present were reduced to sulphides.

Concerning the question of the source of the solutions, the following considerations are pertinent. The metalliferous occurrences in the Upper Muschelkalk, Keuper, and Jurassic—which Althans regarded as constituting this source—are probably insufficient to account for such an extensive occurrence. It is more probable indeed that these themselves were formed by the same processes, whatever they may have been, as those to which the principal beds are referable. According to Bernhardt and Gürich, the ores were deposited simultaneously with the country-rock. Bernhardt recognizes the precipitant in the gases escaping from the Coal-measures beneath, while Gürich sees it in the organic substances contained in the Triassic sea. According to Carnall, Websky, and Althans, the ore, formerly finely distributed, became subsequently concentrated by meteoric waters, a view which A. Sachs also endorses. The most probable of all, however, is the assumption that the solutions rose from depth along fissures, from which following fractures and cracks they spread laterally through the permeable beds of the Muschelkalk. This view is endorsed by Krug von Nidda, Eck, Kossmann, and lately, as the result of special investigation, by Beyschlag and Michael. It is occasionally urged against it that the channels of access necessary to such an assumption must, if existing, have been disclosed by the extensive mining operations which have been undertaken in the Coal-measures beneath; or, alternatively, that much lead- and zinc ore should have been found within the fissures of those measures. Both these objections appear no longer to have force; firstly, because in the Coal-measures the limestone necessary to such deposition of ore does not exist, and the ascending waters not being able to dissolve the insoluble rocks along the fissures were accordingly not in the position to form funnel-shaped cavities; secondly, because occurrences of lead- and zinc ore, particularly the former, are actually found in the fissures of those measures; and finally, because in the Upper Bunter and in the transition beds between the Bunter and the Rotliegendes, occurrences of ore such as have recently been discovered may only be explained by deposition from ascending solutions.

The endeavour from above to follow the fissures known in the Triassic into depth, or from below to follow the faults in the Coal-measures into the Triassic above, has for want of available exposures but seldom succeeded. It is also almost always impossible to follow the Muschelkalk fissures into depth because of water, which in this Triassic region is so abundant as to be sufficient for the entire industrial district of Upper Silesia. It may therefore be assumed that the connection of the fissures in the Muschelkalk with those of the Coal-measures is more frequent than might be supposed from the observations so far possible.

According to Gürich, zinc mining in this district began in the sixteenth century. The oxidized ores alone were mined at first, sphalerite having only been mined for about four decades.

#### PRODUCTION OF UPPER SILESIA

	Zinc Ore.	Sphalerite included.	Lead Ore.	Lead.	Silver.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Kg.
1791	16,688	...	910	...	...
1816	3,230	...	...	266 Lead	625
				628 Litharge	
1868	290,362	...	11,047	5,580 Lead	6000
1878	?	4,300	...	...	...
1887	552,614	...	28,580	...	...
1897	510,686	270,426	35,847	19,338 Lead	8349
				1,719 Litharge	

The present production may be gauged from the following figures: In the year 1908 eleven mines employing 9442 hands produced 1,212,366 tons of argentiferous galena and sphalerite, together containing 210,456 tons of zinc and 61,733 tons of lead, equivalent to 17·4 per cent and 5·1 per cent respectively; and in addition 208,025 tons of zinc oxidized ore and schalenblende, containing 30,850 tons of zinc, equivalent to 14·8 per cent. If these figures be compared with those of Germany as a whole—which for that year were 2,913,150 tons, containing 320,216 tons of zinc and 114,583 tons of lead, or 11 per cent and 3·9 per cent respectively—it is seen that in respect to metallic zinc, Upper Silesia is responsible for three-fourths of the total produced by mines in Germany, and more than one-half of the total lead.

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Lying upon the north-west flank of the Cambrian anticline at Hohe Venn, situated on the left bank of the Rhine between Eschweiler and Lüttich, contorted Devonian and Carboniferous beds are found. These Palæozoic beds, which disappear under the Cretaceous of Aachen and Maas-tricht, occur folded, and to some extent overthrust, into north-east striking anticlines and synclines, the whole effect being that the individual formations, the Upper Devonian, the Carboniferous limestone, and the Coal-measures, form a succession of narrow north-east striking belts, the older members of each forming the anticlines and the younger members the synclines. This disposition of the beds is illustrated in Fig. 6.

The deposits are connected with the dolomitic limestones of the different formations on the one hand, and with transverse disturbances running north-west or approximately at right angles to the country, on the other. In German territory they are arranged in two districts, one situated to the south-west of Aachen in the neighbourhood of Moresnet, the mining area there being the property of the Vieille Montagne company; and the other at Stolberg to the east of Aachen, where the important Diepenlinchen mine is worked by the Stolberg company.<sup>1</sup> Altogether, according to the statistics of the mining district of Düren, forty-five lead- and zinc concessions have been granted, upon approximately one-half of which operations have so far been undertaken.

The ore is associated with the Eifel limestone—Middle to Lower Devonian—as well as with the Carboniferous limestone, these two being separated from one another by a thickness of arenaceous slates, the Famennian beds of the Upper Devonian. However much the outward shape and the mineralogical content of these lead-zinc deposits may vary in the individual occurrences, and some of these variations are illustrated in Fig. 345, without exception they are connected with faults striking transversely across the formation, and are only found where solutions circulating along fissures and boundary-planes encountered calcareous and dolomitic rocks, such rocks being chiefly Carboniferous, but also Devonian. It is seldom that any ore is found in the arenaceous slates above or below these limestones. Still more unfavourable to the deposition of ore do the Carboniferous slates appear to have been, since with them ore is only known to occur in connection with the Bleiberg fissure-system. Somewhat more favourable were the foot-wall slates of the Upper

<sup>1</sup> *Gesellschaft für Bergbau, Blei- und Zinkfabrikation zu Stolberg und in Westfalen.*

Devonian in which, as for instance in the Schmalgraf, Lontzen, and Prester mines, and at Hammerberg near Stolberg, etc., ore-bodies are occasionally found.

Such faults may be followed right through all the Palæozoic beds, from the Cambrian to the Carboniferous, even though at times they may be represented only by flucans or narrow fractures. The width of the

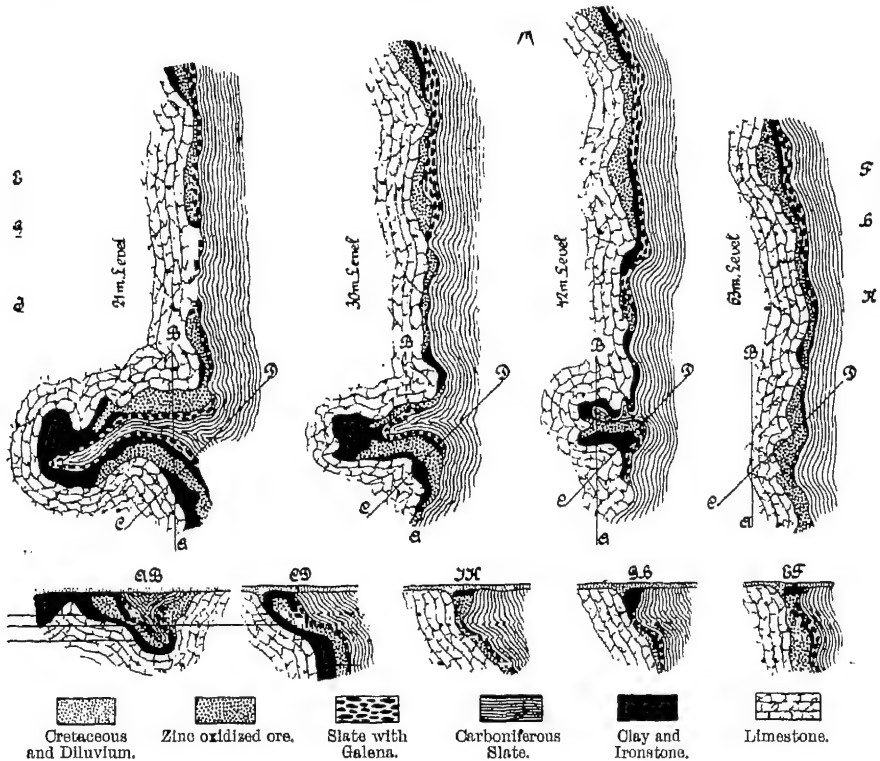


FIG. 345.—Horizontal and cross sections of the St. Pauli lead-zinc mine at Welkenraedt.

fissure in the limestone is different from that in the clastic rocks, while at the same time the mineralization has almost always changed. The strike varies between east by south and south, a bent course being seldom observed. Generally several fissures occur together, in part with their courses parallel and in part diagonal, so that they form a fissure- or linked series. Often again, a fissure, simple and regular in one part of its course, is observed to split up along its continuation.

The length of these transverse faults is quite considerable, the Münstergerwand and the Sandgerwand faults, for instance, cross not only the



Carboniferous syncline at the river Worm, but also that at the Inde. In cases where fissures pinch out, not far to the right or left others usually begin. The dip is sometimes to the north-west and sometimes to the south-east, these two directions being occasionally present in different parts of the same fissure. Generally the dip is steep, but occasionally it may be as flat as  $40^\circ$  or less. In depth the fissures become smaller, till eventually they die out. They represent true faults, the throw in particular cases reaching more than 400 metres.

In relation to geological age it may only be said that the first fracturing had begun before the deposition of the Senonian, while subsequent movements in the same fissures continued till after Diluvial time. The majority of occurrences now being worked are found in the Carboniferous limestone, and particularly in its basal dolomite. Among these are the famous zinc deposit at Altenberg in the Moresnet syncline, and the deposits in the Schmalgraf, Eschbruch, and Mützhagen mines. Numerous other occurrences, including that at Diepenlinchen, are found in the Carboniferous limestone of the Werth syncline, to the south-east of Stolberg.

Concerning the arrangement of the fissures into series, four of these may be distinguished, namely: (1) the Welkenraedt series including the deposit of that name; (2) a series east of this between Ruyff and Herbesthal; (3) the prolongation of the Schmalgraf fissure-system, this prolongation reaching to the neighbourhood of Eupen; and (4) the Bleiberg Vieille-Montagne series. Farther to the east comes the poorer district south of Aachen, and then the eastern district with the numerous lode-like occurrences of the Vichbach valley, these being centred around the Münsterge wand fault and its parallel associates. Still farther to the east on the right bank of the Vicht comes the Sandgewand system, which in the Werth syncline cuts the Carboniferous limestone twice and continues into the Eifel limestone.

The deposits form lodes as well as chamber-deposits and metasomatic ore-bodies, these different forms of deposit usually occurring in combination.

The ore consists of zinc sulphide—chiefly schalenblende but also sphalerite—of galena, and exceptionally pyrite and marcasite. It is illustrated in Fig. 94. With these deposits the products of oxidation are especially important. At Schmalgraf the deposits have been proved to be payable to a depth of 175 m.; at Diepenlinchen to 250 metres. The oxidized zinc- and lead ores are the oxidation products of sulphide ores, which oxidation, as in the cerussite deposit of Diepenlinchen, may have proceeded so far that the sulphides have been completely replaced. The most characteristic and frequent minerals are the zinc carbonate, and the hydrosilicate, though the anhydrous silicate also occurs.

The form of these metasomatic deposits is irregular, nor is the separation from the country-rock definite, as all gradations from pure zinc ore to zinciferous and ferruginous limestone may be observed. In texture the ore-bodies are usually porous or cellular. Crystals of secondary zinc carbonate and hydrosilicate are found in druses and fissures. The connection of such purely metasomatic deposits with fissures is often not discernible at first sight, owing to the fact that the processes of metasomatism tend to modify and obliterate the original arrangement.

Concerning the relative age of the different minerals, in the cavity-fillings the recurring sequence, first galena, then schalenblende, and finally marcasite, is remarkable. By subsequent shattering and disturbance a brecciated structure has often been produced, in which the number of slickensides and veins of recent calcite is striking.

The oxidized ores, including those of zinc, represent oxidation-metasomatic deposits. They are associated with the limestone in the neighbourhood of the surface, the alteration of this limestone having been effected by metal solutions formed from the sulphides. The formation of these sulphides probably took place before the deposition of the Senonian.

According to F. Herbst the composition of the ore won at different mines is as follows:

Mine.	Sphalerite.	Galena.	Pyrite.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Schmalgraf . . .	31.8	5.0	19.5
Eschbruch . . .	32.1	3.8	24.8
Mützhagen . . .	23.0	3.5	21.8
Fossey . . . .	31.8	1.5	6.2

The importance of this district may be gathered from the following figures: during 1909 the mines of the *Allenberger Bergwerksgesellschaft*, including the Eschbruch, Schmalgraf, Fossey, and Lontzen mines in Prussia, as well as the Mützhagen mine in Belgium, produced 30,948 tons of ore, from which 938 tons of zinc oxidized ore, 12,289 tons of sphalerite, and 800 tons of galena were obtained. The Diepenlinchen mine belonging to the Stolberg Company<sup>1</sup> in 1910 produced 9611 tons of sphalerite and 1626 tons of galena.

## ISERLOHN, WESTPHALIA

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Between Hagen and Balve the Stringocephalus limestone of the upper Middle Devonian occurs as a belt 32 km. long and more than 1000 m. in width, dipping to the north. Scattered in this belt over an area about 12 km. long, embracing Letmathe, Iserlohn, and Deilingenhofen, some fifteen zinc deposits of varying size occur. These are of irregular shape with semicircular or triangular section, and are found either near or actually at the contact with the Lenne slate. While against this slate their outline is definite and regular, their extension laterally into the limestone is irregular. The ore-bodies thus formed generally extend in a north-south direction and not infrequently assume a lode-like form. Without doubt they owe their existence to the individually unimportant but numerous transverse disturbances of this neighbourhood. In depth they generally rapidly pinch out, a depth of 205 m. being reached in but one case; with the surface they are usually connected by irregular chimneys filled with Diluvial material.

The ore originally consisted of sphalerite, pyrite, and to a less extent of galena. These minerals are now only seen as kernels within solid masses, the peripheral portions of which consist of zinc carbonate, hydrosilicate, and silicate, of limonite, and more rarely cerussite and pyromorphite, these being enveloped in a considerable amount of clay. Calcite, often in beautiful crystals, and occasionally quartz, accompany the ore.

Some of the most important of these ore-bodies lie immediately under the town of Iserlohn, and the subsidences of the surface consequent upon the mining of these bodies have led to many complicated legal processes. While the Krug-von-Nidda mine to the east of Iserlohn was in 1893 stopped owing to exhaustion of its deposits, the Tiefbau-von-Hövel situated at the eastern end of the town continued a modest existence to within a few years ago.

The crusted structure of the sulphide ore—the sphalerite and pyrite especially occurring in separate layers—together with the botryoidal and stalactitic forms, point plainly to deposition in cavities formed by water, and to metasomatism. These sulphides subsequently became oxidized by meteoric waters. The clay which almost everywhere accompanies the ore is probably the insoluble residue from marl and limestone, though doubtless some was subsequently introduced from above.

Upon the observed fact that the Stringocephalus limestone and the Lenne slate possess almost everywhere a low zinc content, the

assumption has been based that these ore-bodies were formed by lateral secretion; we, however, are firmly convinced that the pregnant solutions ascended from depth along fissures. The sources of these solutions are probably the same as those from which the lodes of the Velbert anticline<sup>1</sup> between the Rhine and the Ruhr, were filled, this probability arising from the genetic connection established by the Geological Survey between those lode fissures and the fissures at Iserlohn.

In 1894 the zinc mines at Iserlohn worked by the *Märkisch-Westfälischen Bergwerksverein*, produced 7245 tons of zinc oxidized ore, 4182 tons of sphalerite, and 64 tons of pyrite, 350 men being employed in mines and works. In the same year the total production of the district was 8669 tons of zinc oxidized ore, 4185 tons of sphalerite, and 77 tons of pyrite. Since then however and not many years ago, all work was stopped.

#### SCHWELM AND LANGERFELD, WESTPHALIA

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Occurrences similar to those at Iserlohn are known in the Rote Berge at Schwelm and at Langerfeld near Barmen. Though these have at present no economic importance they are interesting in that the *Stringocephalus* limestone, while the form of its corals has been maintained, has itself been altered partly to marcasite and partly to sphalerite, deposits of these two ores occurring close to one another. From these, by the action of meteoric water oxidized iron- and zinc ores subsequently became formed, the former in sufficient quantity to have been the object of mining operations not many years ago.

At Langerfeld the *Stringocephalus* limestone became likewise replaced by sulphide zinc- and iron ores, which in their turn similarly suffered oxidation by meteoric water. This deposit is also interesting because, presumably in Tertiary time, a mechanical re-arrangement and concentration of the oxidized ore and residual clay took place, so that to-day the upper portion of the deposit represents a sedimentary ore-bed, while the lower portion is an oxidized metasomatic deposit. The occurrence of considerable disturbances in the immediate neighbourhood of the deposit suggests that here also the pregnant solutions ascended from depth.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 703.

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Some 12 km. south of Heidelberg, between Wiesloch and Nussloch, in the Upper Muschelkalk and close to the large Rhine-valley Fault, many irregularly bedded zinc deposits are found associated with the smaller step-like secondary faults.

The section of the Upper Muschelkalk at Kobelsberg consists of the Trochite beds proper and the lower Trochite limestone. The former may again be divided into an uppermost layer about 0.5 m. thick; then for a thickness of 0.15 m. three limestone layers which in places are replaced by zinc ore or zinciferous clay; then 3–6 m. of limestone; and finally 1.5–4.8 m. of yellowish-grey or reddish encrinite limestone alternating with clayey marl. The lower Trochite limestone consists of a bluish-grey limestone alternating with clay and marl.

Mining operations, which go back as far as Roman time and which in the middle of the last century enjoyed a short period of prosperity, have again been given up, doubtless in consequence of the irregularity of the deposits.

The ore consists chiefly of zinc oxidized ore, which, as the exposures to the east on the Kobelsberg demonstrate, has resulted from the decomposition of sphalerite, portions of which are still extant. Schmidt gives the essential minerals occurring at Wiesloch, as sphalerite, galena, marcasite, zinc carbonate, hydrozincite, limonite, iron-ochre, and to a less extent pyrolusite, cerussite, pyromorphite, anglesite, antimony-ochre, realgar, barite, selenite, calcite, dolomite, and clay. The sphalerite occurs in two generations, the older of which, a cryptocrystalline schalenblende arranged in layers with galena and marcasite, forms the principal ore. Not infrequently, in cavities within the deposits, these minerals are deposited in stalactitic form, with a younger generation of sphalerite as the outside envelope. Galena, in addition to occurring in compact form with schalenblende, occurs also crystallized by itself, and, again, as irregular masses in the zinc oxidized ore. This oxidized ore exists as fine-grained, compact, whitish-grey, occasionally also striped, reniform, and botryoidal aggregates, or porous and cellular. In the cleaner portions the zinc content amounts to 40–50 per cent. Limonite and red iron-ochre, the products of decomposition of the marcasite, occur mixed with clay, more particularly in the upper portions of the deposit. In the ochre the silica has become concentrated into well-developed quartz crystals.

Schmidt specifies five ore-beds at Wiesloch, all lying in an unmistakable north and south direction. Three of these are situated on the west slope of the Hessel, forming the Hessel district, the two remaining beds on the south-west slope of the Kobelsberg forming the Baiertal district. All these beds, each of which is made up of a large number of smaller and larger pockets connected by stringers, appear everywhere to belong to the same horizon of the Trochite limestone. The mineralization is associated on the one hand with the bedding-planes, and on the other with the fissures which traverse the country. The thickness of the deposit may be divided into a lower portion consisting predominately of zinc ore, and an upper portion consisting substantially of iron ore. The fissures themselves are filled sometimes with ordinary clay, but generally with zinciferous, ferruginous clay, and zinc oxidized ore. That contemporaneously with the process of replacement of limestone by ore, deposition of ore took place in cavities already formed by water, is plainly indicated by the occurrence of sphalerite stalactites on the Kobelsberg. The ore-bed, though usually conformable, occasionally follows the fissures to moderate depths below, reaching in one case even as deep as the Wellenkalk.

In the oxidized zinc deposits the extensive distribution of crystal cavities regarded as the negative crystals of selenite, is striking. These cavities indicate that a sulphatizing action immediately preceded the formation of the oxidized zinc. Further, the occurrence at Wiesloch of many fossils preserved in oxidized ore has long been known, these fossil casts being regarded as simple replacement pseudomorphs. The dolomitization of the Trochite limestone, evidence of which may often be observed in the neighbourhood of Wiesloch, contrary to expectation does not appear to be directly connected with the mineralization, as Schmidt was, generally speaking, not able to establish any intermediate dolomitic zone between the ore and the limestone.

#### CARINTHIA

Metasomatic lead- and zinc deposits, such as occur in fissure enlargements or other cavities in close genetic connection with fault fissures, and such as in addition are always associated with soluble rocks, limestone particularly, occur in Carinthia not only in large number but typically developed. It was indeed from these occurrences that the formation of this important and widely distributed type of deposit was first understood, this recognition being more particularly the work of F. Pošepný. It was natural therefore that from them v. Groddeck took his 'Raibl' type. Deposits of this type traverse Carinthia in a broad east-west zone, usually along an impermeable slate bed. The Hauptschiefer, the Bleiberg or

Raibl slate of the Upper Triassic, and the Werfen slate of the Lower Triassic, are all beds of such slate. Pošepný rightly considered the greatest factor in the mineralization to lie not in the geological horizon of the limestone or slate, but in the difference in the permeability of these two rocks. For convenience in description he divided the occurrence into three districts, those of Raibl, Bleiberg, and Lower Carinthia respectively.

## RAIBL

### LITERATURE

F. POŠEPNÝ. 'Die Blei- und Galmeierzlagerstätten von Raibl in Kärnten,' *Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst.* Vol. XXIII, Vienna, 1873; 'Über die Entstehung von Blei- und Zinkerzlagerstätten in auflöslichen Gesteinen,' *Bericht über den allgem. Bergmannstag zu Klagenfurt*, 1893, p. 77.—G. GÜRICH. *Das Mineralreich*, 1899, p. 573.—Geological mining maps with sections of Raibl together with drawings of the lead-zinc deposits; surveyed by the officials of the State Mining Department; published by the Minister for Agriculture, Vienna, 1903.

The country around this old hill town, which lies in a small valley on the south side of the Gail, forms part of the Alpine Triassic which, striking east-west and dipping south, consists of an alternation of limestone, dolomite, and marl. The ore-bearing white Raibl dolomite and limestone lie upon the Cassian beds of the Middle Alpine Triassic, and are in turn overlaid by the bituminous Fish slate. Above this again follow black marly slate and the Raibl beds proper, these belonging to the Upper Alpine Triassic.

The deposits occur in two different forms and at two different horizons. In the upper portions of the dolomite adjacent to the Fish slate, the ore is connected with transverse faults which in places are enlarged to cavities. In the narrow portions of these the ore forms lode-like masses, while the cavities are filled with concentrically banded galena and sphalerite, accompanied by dolomite as gangue. At a deeper horizon—though still in the limestone which is here but little dolomitized—along the same transverse faults, masses of oxidized ore are found as replacement pseudomorphs of the limestone.

The ore-bodies generally have the form of pipes. In the municipal mines they extend in three main directions, these corresponding respectively to the Johann, Abend, and Morgen faults; in dip they incline to the south, parallel to the bedding of the limestone. The ore-body associated with the Johann fault lies some 300 m. below the contact between the limestone and the slate; that following the Abend fault some 150 m. below that contact; while the Morgen fault approaches ever nearer to that contact, making it probable that in greater depth the ore-body associated with that fault occurs actually at the contact with the slate.

The individual ore-channels are variable in section, being sometimes constricted, sometimes enlarged, while occasionally they split up into branches. With many of them a crusted structure, with layers of different minerals and of varying thickness disposed around a central cavity generally filled with dolomite, is very pronouncedly developed, indicating that the deposition of the ore undoubtedly took place in pre-existing pipe-like channels filled with water. More rarely a brecciated structure has arisen by the collapse of the cavity, such breccia consisting of dolomite- and limestone fragments cemented by ore. A pseudo-brecciated structure is not infrequently found where the limestone has only been partly replaced, kernels of it still remaining.

The primary ore is invariably of sulphides. It consists of schalenblende, galena almost free from silver, and pyrite. Dolomite and barite form the gangue. From these primary minerals, zinc carbonate and cerussite have been formed by oxidation. The ore-pipes are particularly interesting. These occur principally in connection with the Struggl fault-system and consist of pyrite and sphalerite in concentric layers around hollow galena stalactites. Octahedra of galena are occasionally found in these pipe-like aggregates. An alternation of dolomite with sphalerite and galena found in the hanging-wall is known as slate ore.

The oxidized zinc deposits were in greater part formed directly from limestone by oxidation-metasomatism, the original structure of the limestone being maintained. In these deposits zinc carbonate occurs chiefly hydrozincite more rarely, while the hydrosilicate is uncommon. As with all zinc deposits, limonite, more or less clayey, occurs in the oxidized ore the material of this limonite having been derived partly from the pyrite and partly from the iron contained in the schalenblende and the limestone. Towards the outcrop particularly, the proportion of iron increase at the expense of the zinc.

Mining at Raibl is of great though unknown age. The credit for the development of this industry is due to the municipality, which in 1761 purchased some of the mines. The present production amounts to about 3000 tons of lead ore and 17,000 tons of zinc ore annually.

## BLEIBERG

### LITERATURE

MOHS. 'Die Gebirgsgesteine, Lagerungsverhältnisse und Erzlagerstätten zu Bleiberg in Kärnten nach den Beobachtungen des k. k. Bergrates Fr. Mohs 1810.' Copy date Nov. 5, 1830, in the Mine Archives.—K. PETERS. 'Die Umgebung von Deutsch-Bleiberg in Kärnten,' *Jahrb. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst.*, 1856; 'Über die Blei- und Zinklagerstätten Kärntens,' *Oesterr. Zeit.*, 1863, p. 173.—v. CORTA. 'Über die Blei- und Zinklagerstätten Kärntens,' *Berg- und Hüttenm. Ztg.*, 1863, Vol. XXII.—P. POTIORKA. 'Über die Er-



lagerstätten des Bleiberg Erzberges,' Oesterr. Zeit., 1863.—E. SUSS. 'Geogn. bergmänn. Skizze von Bleiberg,' Oesterr. Zeit., 1869.—F. POŠEPNÝ. 'Über alpine Erzlagerstätten,' Verhandl. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1870.—V. MOJSISOVICS. 'Über die tektonischen Verhältnisse des erzführenden Triasgebirges zwischen Drau und Gail (Bleiberg in Kärnten),' Verhandl. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1872.—BRUNLECHNER. 'Die Entstehung und Bildungsfolge der Bleiberg Erze und ihrer Begleiter,' Jahrb. des naturhist. Museums von Kärnten, Vol. XXV., 1895.—HUPFELD. 'Der Bleiberg Erzberg,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1897.—G. GEYER. 'Zur Tektonik des Bleiberg Tales in Kärnten,' Verhandl. der k. k. Reichsanst., 1901.

Bleiberg and Raibl form together the centre of the long-lived Carinthian lead- and zinc mining. Bleiberg lies 12 km. west of Villach in a deep-cut tectonic valley between the Bleiberg hill 1261 to 1823 m. in height to the north, and the Dobratsch mountain 2167 m. high to the south, as illustrated in Figs. 58 and 346. The tectonics of the district have the greatest bearing upon the extent and distribution of the deposits, this aspect of the subject having been closely studied by Pošepný, Hupfeld, and especially by Geyer.

The oldest formation, exposed at the western end of the Bleiberg valley beyond Kreuth, belongs to the Lower Carboniferous. Upon this to the east lie the Gröden sandstone, the Werfen beds, and the Guttenstein limestone, all of which however have but small extent on surface. Then follows in great development the Wetterstein limestone-dolomite, of which in greater part the Bleiberg and the Dobratsch consist. The Cardita beds and the Main Dolomite, which come next, are only represented at tectonic breaks,—generally in the valley—by such remnants of a former larger extent as have been withdrawn from erosion by faulting. The district is highly disturbed. As indicated in Fig. 346, the Wetterstein limestone-dolomite dips on the Bleiberg to the south and on the Dobratsch to the north, both these directions inclining inwards towards the great Bleiberg Break to which the valley owes its existence. North of this break particularly, many faults along which huge segments of the younger rocks have subsided, have been delineated. The combination of folding and faulting, as illustrated in Fig. 347, produces an extremely complicated tectonic figure.

The ore-bearing horizon occurs in the Wetterstein limestone. It is a light-coloured dolomitic limestone within which, though seldom, darker and presumably bituminous layers are intercalated. The proportion of  $MgCO_3$  varies between 0.1 and 40 per cent. According to the section given in Fig. 347 the following beds in addition are represented in the Bleiberg; the Cardita beds which are younger than the limestone; the overlying Main Dolomite; and finally, in the foot-wall of the limestone, the Wetterstein dolomite. The Dobratsch mountain on the opposite side of the valley consists, in the vicinity of the break, of Wetterstein dolomite.

The deposits at Bleiberg are chiefly irregular cavity-fillings and metasomatic deposits, the distribution of these being closely connected

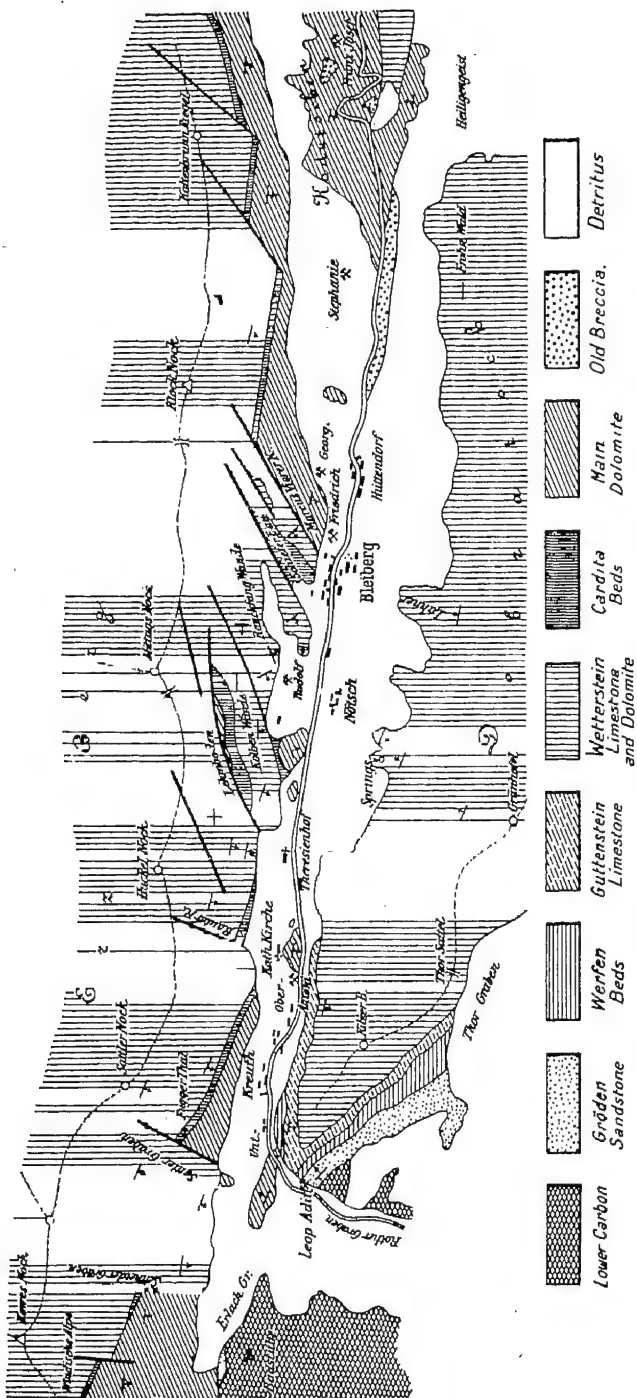


FIG. 346.—Geologic-tectonic map of the Bleiberg valley. Scale, 1 : 65,500. Geyer.

with the Bleiberg Break. They occur almost exclusively in the ore-bearing limestone. Their form has been aptly described by Pošepný as pipe-shaped. Reference to Fig. 58 shows the striking agreement which exists between the bodies of each individual district, in relation to the direction in which they lie; the axes of these bodies, as already recognized by Mohs, coincide with the lines of intersection of two planes, namely, the bedding-plane of the limestone and that of certain fissures. At Bleiberg itself these fissures are known as lodes and the bedding-planes as planes, while at Kreuth they are termed cross fissures and beds respectively. It is particularly noteworthy that these axes are not dependent upon certain limestone bands but upon certain bedding-planes separating the limestone, such planes being

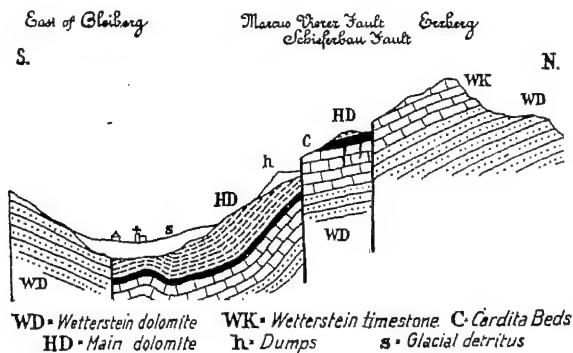


FIG. 347.—Section across the Bleiberg valley. Geyer.

described as 'kindly.' These kindly planes are more pronounced than those which are not associated with ore, while in addition they also exhibit traces of a previous water circulation and are accompanied by clay.

In the Fugger valley the fissures strike south-east and dip  $50^{\circ}$ – $70^{\circ}$  to the north-east; in the main district of Kreuth the strike is north-south and the dip  $60^{\circ}$ – $65^{\circ}$  to the east; while around Bleiberg itself the strike is east-west and the dip approximately vertical. Corresponding to the different strike of the fissures and bedding-planes, the ore-bodies in the Fugger valley and at Kreuth, as indicated in Fig. 58, have a general north-west strike, while in the Bleiberg area proper a north-east strike prevails. The depth to which these bodies continue at Bleiberg has not yet been determined; some have already disappeared in depth, while in others the deepest developments—which in the Kreuth district are more than 400 m. below the level of the valley—have proved to be the best and most promising of the whole district. With regard to the breadth of the area throughout which these deposits occur, Hupfeld

considers there is evidence to show that they are associated with the Bleiberg slate, from which generally they extend only some 500 m. into the ore-bearing limestone.

The minerals of the deposits are both primary and secondary. Among the former are galena, sphalerite, marcasite, barite, fluorite, calcite, and dolomite. The galena generally occurs in the form of pipes similar to those mentioned when describing the deposits at Raibl, these pipes here consisting of long cylinders of galena filled with calcite. This galena is remarkable for its great purity and the complete absence of antimony, copper, and silver; it was the raw material from which a celebrated brand of lead was made.<sup>1</sup> The sphalerite occurs chiefly near Kreuth to the west and at another point right to the east, while in the central portion of the district it is subordinate. It generally occurs in the form of schalenblende with a core of calcite or galena. It is mostly light yellow in colour, becoming darker as the proportion of contained iron increases. The intimate intergrowth of barite with these sulphides is especially characteristic at Bleiberg, aggregates of tabular crystals arranged parallel, or solid masses with laminated structure, being often found. The mode of occurrence of the fluorite is interesting, this mineral being found in rose-coloured, violet, or crystal-clear cubes of at most 7.5 mm., upon galena and sphalerite. Calcite and dolomite either form veins in the country-rock, or are of recent formation in druses, etc.

The secondary minerals are in greater part those which have resulted from the oxidation of the primary minerals. The galena upon oxidation gives rise to good crystals of cerussite, twinned and retwinned, to plumbocalcite, anglesite, and wulfenite, this last mineral, which occurs remarkably often in druses at Bleiberg, being almost always crystallized in thin plates. The proximate source of the molybdenum in this yellow and occasionally grey mineral has so far not been determined; no molybdenite has yet been found in the deposits. The sphalerite at oxidation passes chiefly to zinc carbonate which is often contaminated by limonite and clay, while crystals are uncommon. By absorption of water the carbonate in turn becomes hydrozincite. The change from sphalerite to the hydrosilicate is less common, though when it does occur crystals are more frequent. Marcasite becomes limonite, sulphuric acid being liberated, wherefrom the alteration of the limestone to anhydrite results, the amount of this mineral at Bleiberg being remarkable. It is sky-blue in colour and often includes unaltered pieces of limestone. Upon exposure to air it absorbs water, selenite becoming formed. In the Kreuth district the asbestos-like mineral, mountain-leather, occurs now and then.

Some idea of the form of these deposits may be gathered from Fig. 60.

<sup>1</sup> *Das Kärntener Jungfernblei.*

As illustrated in that figure, the ore, in detail also, follows the bedding-planes on the one hand and the fissures on the other, as solution of the rock proceeded.

The relative ages of the different minerals as revealed by crystal intergrowth and incrustation, has been determined by A. Brunlechner, who came to the conclusion that two generations of sphalerite, galena, calcite, and wulfenite, must be assumed, in the first of which galena predominates, and in the second, sphalerite. The sequence of the first generation he gives as calcite, sphalerite, galena, barite, marcasite, calcite, fluorite; and that of the second, calcite, sphalerite, galena, schalenblende, barite, marcasite, calcite, fluorite, dolomite, and anhydrite. To these two generations the different oxidation minerals described above are of course additional. To these, according to Brunlechner, may be added ilsemaninite,  $\text{Mo}_3\text{O}_8 + x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , sulphur, and goslarite, though the occurrence of these minerals at Bleiberg has not yet been fully established.

The genesis of the Bleiberg occurrence has been studied and discussed by many authorities, some of whom have regarded it as syngenetic, others again as epigenetic. Disciples of a syngenetic genesis have been represented at all times, among these being Mohs, Fuchs, Lipold, and Peters. To-day, however, it is generally agreed that these deposits are of epigenetic origin, an origin early suggested, though subsequently abandoned by various authors. The miner, as far back as the end of the eighteenth century, recognized that the ore-pipes were enriched intersections. E. Phillipps, a French mining engineer, in a paper published about the middle of last century, pronounced for their formation after the manner of lodes. In 1863 von Cotta published a long paper upon Bleiberg in which he classified the deposits as secondary and due to metal solutions which, circulating along fissures in the country, found their way into the fractured limestone. Potiorek, for many years the mine manager at Bleiberg, when in the same year describing the occurrence at Bleiberg, disputed the idea of a bedded character, this description being the first made in any great detail. Pošepný, in an annex to his investigation at Raibl, then put forward the view that these deposits were pipe-like cavity-fillings, generally following the lines of intersection between fissures and bedding-planes, a view which Hupfeld endorsed. Brunlechner<sup>1</sup> suggested the possibility of formation by lateral secretion, because, according to his view, the nature and manner of the distribution of the ore in the extensive and massive complex of the Wetterstein limestone, strongly supported this hypothesis. According to him alteration so proceeded from the fissures that some became blocked by deposited minerals, while others became enlarged.

The authors endorse the theory elaborated more particularly by

<sup>1</sup> *Loc. cit.*

Pošepný that the deposits are the fillings of irregular cavities, such fillings having been accompanied by the metasomatic alteration of a portion of the Wetterstein limestone, both processes of deposition proceeding from fissures. At the subsequent oxidation of the ore in the manner explained above in detail, heavy-metal solutions once more came into contact with limestone, whereby a second replacement of the limestone by lead and zinc became possible. This process, which doubtless was accompanied by enlargement of the original width of the deposit, comes within the range of what Krusch terms oxidation-metasomatism.

## LAURION, GREECE

### LITERATURE

A. BÖCKH. 'Über die antiken laurischen Silberbergwerke,' Abhandl. d. Akad. d. Wiss., 1814-1815, pp. 85-140. Berlin, 1818.—A. CORDELLA. *Le Laurium*. Marseille, 1889.—R. NASSE. 'Mitteilungen über die Geologie von Laurion und den dortigen Bergbau,' Zeit. f. d. Berg- Hütten- u. Salinenwesen im pr. Staate. Vol. XXI. Berlin, 1873.—B. SIMONNET. *Le Laurium*. Bull. de la Soc. de l'ind. min. St-Étienne, 1883, II. Ser. Vol. XII. p. 641.—A. CORDELLA. *La Grèce sous le rapport géologique et minéralogique*. Paris, 1878; *Mineralogisch-geologische Reiseskizzen aus Griechenland*. Leipzig, 1883.—R. LEPSIUS. *Geologie von Attika*. Berlin, 1893.—Review: 'Die geologischen Verhältnisse der laurischen Erzlagerstätten,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1896, p. 152.—J. J. BENDER. 'Laurion: Die Attischen Bergwerke im Altertum,' Jahresber. d. k. k. Oberrealschule Laibach, 1895.—C. v. ERNST. 'Über den Bergbau im Laurion,' Jahrb. d. k. k. Bergakad., Vienna, 1902, Vol. L. p. 447.

The valley of Legrana, extending north-north-east along a break in the country, separates the south-eastern and metalliferous portion of southern Attica from the north-western portion, which is differently constructed and non-metalliferous. Most of the ore-deposits are found in a disturbed zone represented by an anticlinal break which, traversing the district of Legrana, passes through Kamaresa and the Plaka Pass and eventually reaches the north-east coast at Daskalio-Niki.

The general strike of the beds in this south-eastern portion of Attica, known as the district of Laurion or Ergastiria, is north-north-east, and the dip is to the east. Of these beds Lepsius gives the following sequence:

Quaternary.

Tertiary: Upper, represented by the Pikermi beds; and Lower.

Cretaceous: Upper limestone, grey in colour; green slates and marl of Athens; lower limestone, ferruginous and yellowish-white.

Crystalline schists: Upper Marble of Attica, bluish-grey and fissile; Kaesariani mica-schist, in places with an interbedded marble layer; Lower Marble of Attica; dolomitic and calcareous schists; calcareous mica-schist with quartz lenses.

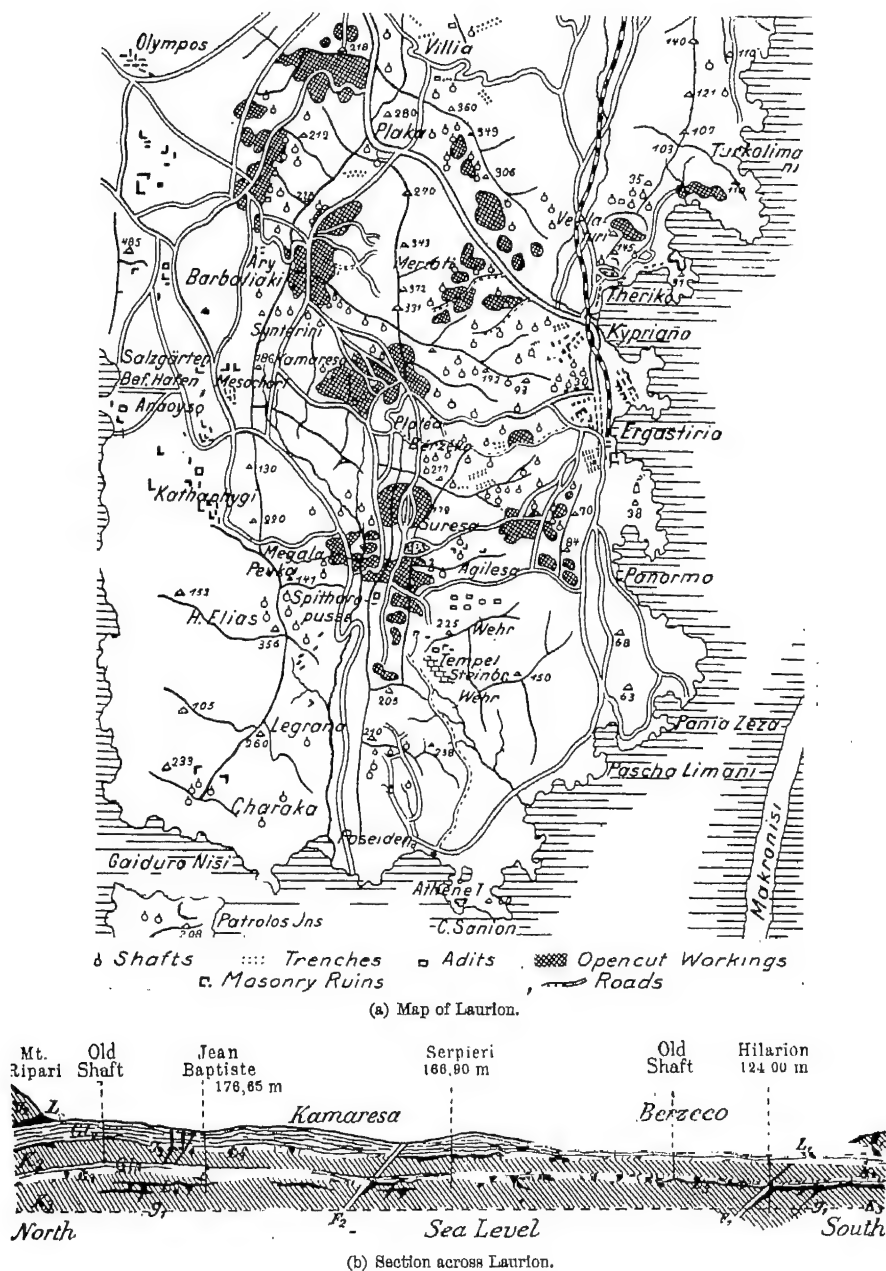


FIG. 348.—Map (a) and section (b) of Laurion. Lepsius and Cordella.  
*Gl*, mica-schist with lead lodes (*y*); *K*, limestone (Marble); *L*, metasomatic ore-bodies.

The deepest beds exposed in the Laurion hills are those of the Lower Marble, which are several hundred metres thick. It is in these that the zinciferous and argentiferous lead deposits are found. Numerous occurrences of gabbro often serpentinized—as well as the granite of Plaka which with numerous apophyses lies in the course of the anticlinal fault—break through and metamorphose the crystalline schists and the Cretaceous beds. While the western flank of the Legrana anticline is highly disturbed, the eastern flank dips very regularly at an angle of  $10^{\circ}$ – $20^{\circ}$  all the way to the coast.

At Laurion three so-called ore-contacts are distinguished, these being disposed as follows: the first or uppermost at the contact between the Cretaceous slate and the Lower Cretaceous limestone; the second between the Upper Marble and the Kaesariani mica-schist; and the third or lowest contact between this mica-schist and the Lower Marble. The irregular bed-like sphalerite-, galena-, and oxidized zinc deposits occur almost always at the contacts between the Kaesariani mica-schist and the Upper and Lower Marble, particularly the latter. At Kamaresa, on the steeply dipping western flank, they are found also along the lower surface of the marble bed which is regularly intercalated in the mica-schist at that place. At the contact of the granite and its apophyses with the marble, similar deposits also are often seen, from which rich veins shoot out into the limestone. Against the granite at Plaka the Cretaceous slate is altered to an augite-epidote-garnet rock, termed plakite by Cordella. Upon the Rimbari hills also, the Lower Cretaceous limestone, often dolomitized and sideritized, is in many places altered to manganiferous limonite with some galena. The ores at the first contact are much exploited and exported.

The lower lead-zinc bedded deposits, which have been formed by the alteration of the limestone associated with the crystalline schists, are according to their depth known respectively as the second and third contact ores. These contain no iron but consist of argentiferous galena, sphalerite, and zinc oxidized ore.

In ancient times attention was only paid to the galena, from which silver was obtained by smelting. The dumps left from those times, consisting of rock, ore, and slag, are now in many cases being re-worked, yielding 3–4 per cent of lead and a little zinc. The slags contain 13–14 per cent of lead with 0.5–3 kg. of silver per ton of lead. According to von Ernst the galena, which is usually very compact, has a high percentage of lead and is rich in silver, 2 kg. per ton often being obtained. The percentage of zinc in the oxidized ore is variable; with the lower deposits, from which at times as much as 3000–4000 tons of such ore has been obtained monthly, it was formerly, after roasting, 65 per cent. Modern mining will however have to deal with ore of much lower value.



According to Cordella, the production of the mines worked by the French company at Laurion in 1901 was 10,730 tons of roasted ore of the qualities known as Nos. 1 to 4; 803 tons of plumbiferous zinc ore; 3942 tons of ferruginous zinc ore; and 494 tons of sphalerite. In 1906, altogether 22,000 tons of zinc oxidized ore and 12,298 tons of argentiferous lead were obtained from this district.

## SARDINIA

### LITERATURE

A. DE LA MARMORA. Description de la Sardaigne Picos de l'Europe, 1839.—E. FERRARIS. Memoria geognostica sulla formazione metallifera delle miniere di Monteponi e adiacenti, 1882.—G. ZOPPI. Descrizione geologico-mineraria dell' Iglesiasiente (Sardegna), 1888; Mem. descr. della Carta geol. d. Ital. IV., 1888.—Carta Geologico-Mineraria dell' Iglesiasiente 1:50,000, R. Comit. Geol. d' Italia. Rome, 1888.—MARX. 'Geogn. und bergm. Mittheilungen über den Bergbaubezirk von Iglesias auf der Insel Sardinien,' Zeit. f. das Berg-Hütten- und Salinenwesen im pr. Staate, 1892, Vol. XL.—FUCHS et DE LAUNAY. 'Traité des Gîtes minéraux et métallifères, II., 1893, p. 387.—A. DANNENBERG. 'Reisenotizen aus Sardinien,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1896, p. 252.—B. LOTTI. I depositi dei minerali metalliferi, p. 63.

The geological picture presented by Sardinia is rendered particularly interesting by the variety of both the sedimentary formations and the eruptive rocks. The basement rock consists of granite, upon which in succession lie Cambrian sandstone and slate, Silurian limestone, slate, and grauwacke, and Devonian beds. During the deposition of the Carboniferous limestone and the Permian beds Sardinia was dry land, a condition which altered to allow the Jurassic and the Cretaceous to be deposited, these two formations being separated from one another by an unconformity. Finally, Tertiary beds likewise occur, covering large areas. At the conclusion of the Nummulite epoch the Mesozoic beds in Sardinia were tilted; while at the birth of the Alps a last extensive folding took place.

While in most places in Europe the Devonian, Carboniferous, Permian, and Tertiary systems are rich in ore-deposits, the famous zinc- and lead deposits of Sardinia, and particularly those of the province Iglesias, are found in by far the greater number in the Silurian, and it is probable that they are of great geological age.

In this island three mining districts may be recognized, namely, a very important one to the south-west in the province Iglesias; a less important one near Alghero; and an eastern one in the eruptive massive around Sarrabus, Ogliastra, and Lulla. Of these, only the first will here be described.

The district of Iglesias includes to the north the granite massive of Arbus, upon which lies a mantle of Silurian slate and grauwacke. In this

mantle the deposits at Montevecchio, Gennemari, etc., are found. To the south large areas are occupied by Cambrian quartzite and slate, these being surrounded by ore-bearing limestone presumably of Silurian age. In this limestone almost all the famous oxidized zinc deposits of Sardinia occur. To the south-west at Fontanamare, Triassic beds appear, while to the east and north-west large areas are covered by late Eocene and Quaternary formations. Deposits of argentiferous galena and sphalerite are numerous. They are found more particularly at the contact between limestone and slate or between two limestones differing petrographically, or they cut across the formation as veins or lodes. In such lodes irregular masses of zinc oxidized ore with a little galena are often found. As with all metasomatic lead-zinc deposits, the connection between the lodes and the metasomatic deposits is so close that the two classes of deposit must be described together.

The distribution of the ore is in general connected with that of the limestone. In greater detail, the galena in the lodes shows a tendency to be concentrated in ore-shoots, as for instance at San Benedetto, Monteponi, etc., while, in addition, the following general rules may be considered to have become established: 1. The more irregular the deposit, the greater the silver content. 2. The silver content decreases in depth. 3. The sphalerite increases in depth.

The important zinc carbonate and hydrosilicate deposits are found in the upper levels though they do not always reach the surface. In depth, often enough, they end in a clay-filled fissure.

The extension along the strike is often considerable. To the north of the granite massive, for instance, a galena lode is known which, cutting across a wide sequence of old slates for more than 3 km., has been worked under different names in different properties, these including the Montevecchio, Perdixeddosu, Ingustosa, Gennamari, etc. A point worthy of notice is that this lode contains but very little sphalerite. To the south of this granite another lode-system occurs, the members of which strike south-east to east-south-east. As will be seen from Fig. 349, these two systems form together a surround to the granite. In the neighbourhood of Iglesias are found the lead lodes of San Giovanni to the south, and San Benedetto and Malacalzetta to the north; while to the west the important metasomatic deposits worked in the Nebida and Monteponi mines occur. Finally, there is the no less important zone of oxidized zinc deposits at Malfidano to the north-west of Iglesias.

The lode-series at Montevecchio includes three lodes striking east-west and dipping  $65^\circ$  to the north. Of these the most important, having a width of 60 m., stands out on the surface from the slaty country-rock like a massive quartz wall. The galena, which may contain as much as 80

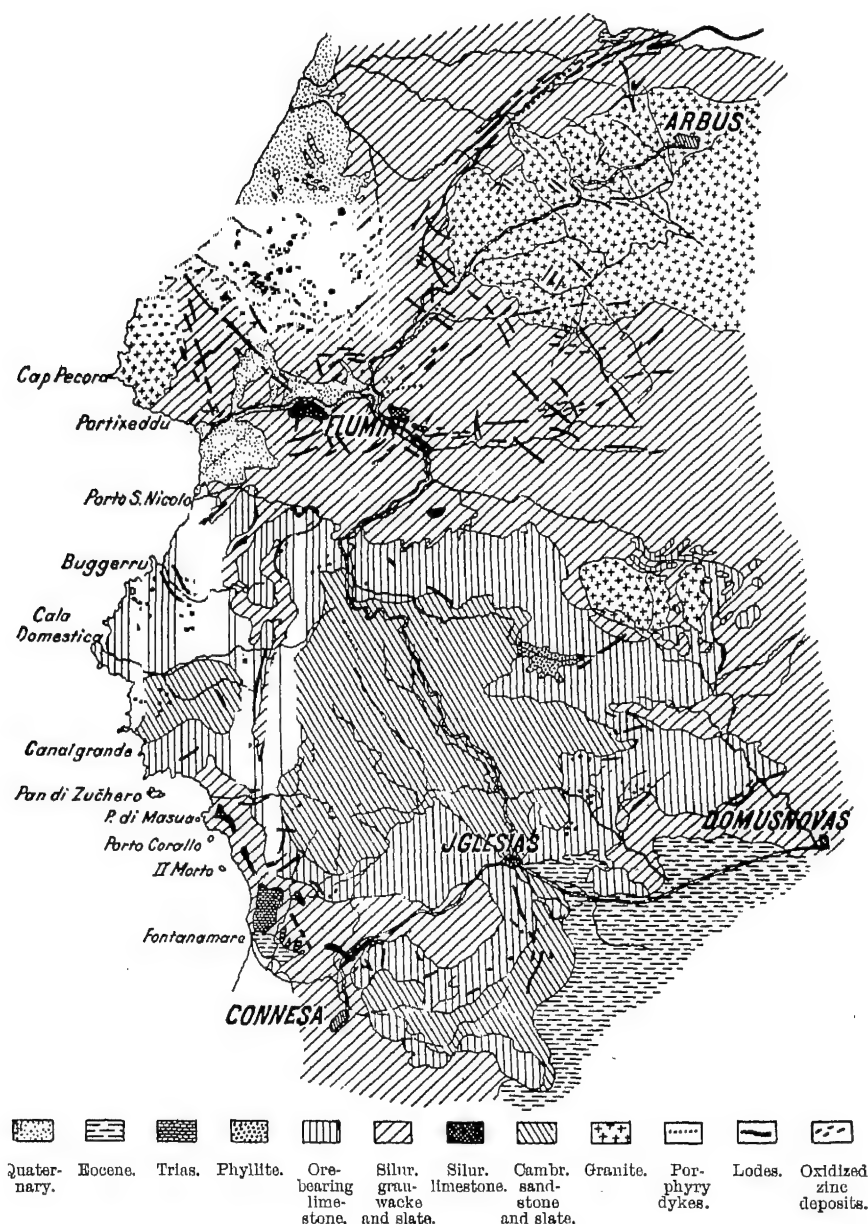


FIG. 349.—Geological map of the Iglesias mining district in Sardinia. Scale, 1 : 240,000.  
Testore, Joppi, Lambert, and Deferrari.

per cent of lead and 800 grm. of silver per ton, occurs in lenses sometimes

as much as 8 m. in width. In depth sphalerite becomes more common. The production amounts to over 10,000 tons per year.

The lode worked in the San Giovanni mine lies almost opposite to Monteponi in a valley descending from Iglesias to the sea. The Silurian slate and the Devonian limestone have here an almost vertical east-west contact, along which runs a lode. The main lode however occurs between a red dolomitic limestone and an overlying bed of blue limestone, in the immediate vicinity of a quartz lode which separates the limestone from clay-slate. In addition to these two lodes a third has been exposed in the blue limestone. The silver content of the first-mentioned lode is on an average 150 grm. per ton. The second lode, lying between the two limestones, contains occurrences of argentiferous galena with quartzose, calcareous, or argillaceous gangue. This galena has a high silver content, generally 1200-1900 grm. per ton. The more irregular the deposit, the higher the silver content appears to be. Near the surface this lode, which is often characterized by a brecciated structure, contains barite. All the fractures within the lode are filled with calcite, which in places has subsequently been removed giving rise to cavities containing concretions of calcite. In one place a galena-sphalerite lode traverses such a cavity, the ore in this traverse being oxidized. The third lode carries galena with quartzose gangue and a silver content sometimes as high as 1500 grm. per ton.

The argentiferous galena lode at San Benedetto, 7 km. north of Iglesias, is celebrated for its zones of secondary enrichment. At this place the ore-bearing and presumably Silurian limestone abuts against Cambrian grauwacke and sandstone. The gangue of the lode consists chiefly of quartz and calcite. The portions formerly worked contained 1300 grm. of silver per ton; the ore upon the third level however now contains but 400 grammes. The disposition of the ore-shoots within the plane of the lode is interesting, these forming lenticular ore-bodies approximately parallel to the slope of the hill. The lode-filling almost everywhere contains some zinc carbonate and cerussite; near the outcrop some considerable masses of the former were met. These deposits yield some 2000 tons of galena and 2000 tons of zinc carbonate per year.

At Malacalzetta north of Iglesias and east of San Benedetto three galena lodes occur in limestone. The first, known as Monte Novo, consists of several veins filled with galena, calcite, and quartz. In the second, that of Monte-Cucchedu, a lens 30 m. long and 2.5 m. wide was found consisting of an intimate mixture of the same three minerals. The third lode has its ore disposed in ore-shoots approximately 100 m. in length, 1.5 m. in width, and but little extent in depth. In accordance with the nature of the country-rock the intergrowth of gangue and ore is intimate.

The filling consists of galena, cerussite, and traces of malachite as the valuable minerals, with quartz, calcite, siderite, clay, and exceptionally barite, as gangue. It is worthy of note that the cerussite is generally richer in silver than the galena. The yearly production is some 1000 tons of galena containing 67 per cent of lead and 1000 grm. of silver per ton.

The Nebida mine lies on the south-west coast in the ore-bearing limestone. The deposits at this place appear very diversified, true lodes, impregnations, and irregular metasomatic masses being all represented. The country-rock strikes north-south and consists of an alternation of slate and limestone. The metasomatic oxidized zinc masses form large, almost vertical columns which were formerly thought to be the fillings of pre-existing cavities, a view supported by the discovery during prospecting of a stalactitic cave. The principal column, 20 m. diameter and consisting of 45 per cent zinc ore, reaches a depth of 180 metres. Another, containing much galena and having a width of 8 m., runs parallel to the bedding and has been worked to a vertical depth of 100 metres. The true lodes are found in the northern part of this particular district. Some of these display a very irregular filling of quartz, siderite, and abundant galena. In the limestone they are occasionally well developed, while in the Silurian slate they disappear. The galena on an average contains 7.5 kg., though occasionally as much as 11 kg. of silver per ton: it is accompanied by cerussite. The impregnations are found along the contact of slate and limestone. With these deposits, from the narrowest of fractures the limestone has been so invaded by ore that for lengths of as much as 150 m. the more easily decomposed portions have been replaced for a width of 8-10 m., sometimes by sphalerite and sometimes by zinc oxidized ore. The annual production from this district is some 3000 to 4000 tons of zinc oxidized ore, and 1000 tons of galena containing on an average some 7 kg. of silver per ton.

The famous occurrence at Monteponi, the oldest mine in Sardinia, situated some 2 km. south-west of Iglesias, includes the galena lodes and irregular oxidized zinc deposits which were worked for lead and silver by the Carthaginians and the Romans in their time, and afterwards in the Middle Ages by the Spaniards. Till 1851 they belonged to the State, passing then into the possession of a private company, by which, since 1867, they have been worked. These deposits are now in greater part exhausted. The mine lies upon a hill 360 m. high consisting of ore-bearing limestone overlaid by a calcareous slate containing fossil *Trilobites*.

Two different occurrences may be noted, that of galena ore-bodies to the south, and that of oxidized zinc deposits to the north. The bodies of galena follow the bedding-planes of the limestone which dip at a gentle angle to the east. Within the particular beds the ore-bodies pitch at

angles varying between  $35^{\circ}$  and  $55^{\circ}$  towards the contact with the slate. They are distinguished by a notable continuity in length and great diversity in width and content. The filling consists in general of galena, with which some zinc oxidized ore is associated. The former, containing up to as much as 82 per cent of lead and on an average 250 grm. of silver per ton, generally occurs in lenses in which the only impurities are scattered nodules of pyrite. Almost every lens is enveloped in a shell of brown or clayey iron oxide; in but few cases does the ore come actually into contact with the limestone, and then the well-known beautiful crystals of cerussite, anglesite, and phosgenite, are found.

The oxidized zinc deposits at Monteponi occur in the limestone in form more or less resembling lodes or pipes, though they have no great extension. The most important occurrence lies to the north. There the limestone is decomposed and the ore follows the bedding-planes and crevices in such a manner as to at once suggest the metasomatic character of the deposit. With incomplete replacement of the limestone a pseudo-breccia results. In this manner masses of zinc ore are formed, 40 m. or more in length and width, but which in depth become poor and disappear. Although most of the deposits are now exhausted, it may still be seen that some attained dimensions of 200 m. by 120 metres. The ore is not particularly pure; in the raw condition it contains 35 per cent of zinc, which after roasting becomes increased to 45-47 per cent. It is accompanied by iron- and manganese minerals, while cerussite also is often found intimately mixed with it.

As with most oxidized zinc deposits the question of dressing is an important matter. These deposits are worked in opencuts which produce annually approximately 4000 tons of ore containing 55 per cent of zinc, and a large amount of poorer ore which upon concentration gives 10,000 to 12,000 tons of marketable material. The galena production amounts to 4000 to 5000 tons of ore containing 60-80 per cent of lead and 200-350 grm. of silver per ton.

The oxidized zinc deposits at Malfidano occur near the village of Bugerru. At Planu-Sartu the ore-bearing limestone, which strikes south-south-west and dips  $50^{\circ}$ - $55^{\circ}$  to the east, contains five well-developed deposits which can be followed for 340-350 metres. These in places have a lode-like character, the ore being sharply separated from the country-rock; more generally however they form beds alternating with limestone. The ore may be schistose or compact, while the zinc content fluctuates between 45 and 50 per cent. Small veins of red ferruginous clay and zinc ore, ramifying in all directions, are often found in the deposit. In addition other small veins of quartz and galena occur. At Malfidano and Caïtas in the eastern portion of the Malfidano property, the ore-bearing

limestone strikes south-south-west and dips  $80^{\circ}$  to the east. The ore-bodies here contain but little sphalerite and still less galena; they gradually merge into normal limestone. This district along its whole length is traversed by a break 30 m. wide, filled with a breccia of limestone and clay, and known for a length of 900 metres. On both sides of the break the oxidized zinc masses form large columns 80 to 100 m. wide and 15 to 20 m. in thickness. That at Malfidano, striking north-south, is crossed by east-west quartzose galena lodes. The deposits at Malfidano and Caïtas produced in 1889 some 42,000 tons of milling ore and 319 tons of sphalerite.

In addition to those mentioned, Fuchs mentions other deposits in the province of Iglesias, at Baueddu, Planu-Dentis, Sedda-Cherci, and Cucuru-Taris. Most of these are typical oxidized zinc deposits. That at Baueddu occurs between slate and Silurian limestone. In width it varies from a few centimetres to 40 m., and its known length is 400 metres. It strikes generally north-south and dips  $30^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$ . The filling is very irregular; quartzose masses with fragments of zinc carbonate, calcite impregnated with zinc ore, and finally, almost pure brown or red carbonate containing ferruginous material, alternate with one another in the northern portion; the central portion is clayey and contains lenses of zinc hydrosilicate 2–3 m. thick; while to the south the silicate is less common, and poor clayey and quartzose masses become prevalent. The occurrence at Planu-Dentis and Pira-Roma is in a Silurian limestone, not far from its contact with slate. It consists of a system of crevices parallel with the bedding-planes of the limestone, from which crevices the alteration of that rock into zinc oxidized ore proceeded. The richest ore lies directly at the contact with slate. From a total mineralized length of 250 m., only 60 m. are payable. The deposit at Sedda-Cherchi is quite analogous, though it quickly becomes poor and passes into zinciferous limestone. That at Cucuru-Taris likewise occurs at the contact between slate and limestone; in the neighbourhood of that contact it includes masses which are almost vertical and which have been formed from fractures.

The participation of the different districts in the lead-zinc production of Sardinia for the year 1889, was as follows :

[TABLE

R

	Galena.	Zinc Oxidized Ore.
	Tons.	Tons.
Montevecchio . . .	12,100	...
San Giovanni . . .	3,660	...
San Benedetto . . .	1,350	1,068
Malacalzetta . . .	2,900	...
Nebida . . . . .	1,500	3,800
Monteponi . . . . .	4,400	15,300
Malfidano . . . . .	...	60,000
Baueddu . . . . .	...	3,000
Total . . . . .	25,910	83,168

These figures illustrate the variable character of the lead-zinc deposits of Sardinia, where all the intermediate stages between purely lead lodes, metasomatic lead- and zinc deposits, and finally metasomatic oxidized zinc deposits are represented. Concerning genesis, it is doubtless the case that oxidation-metasomatism played an important part in the formation of these deposits.

#### THASOS

The island of Thasos, belonging to the Khedive of Egypt, rises to a height of 1205 m. out of the Aegean Sea south of the Macedonian mainland and facing the bay of Cavalla. According to Herodotus, whose facts however have not always proved to be reliable, this island even in olden times had a considerable metal production. In any case the remains of ancient mining operations and of an extensive exploitation of excellent statue marble are numerous. For many years the *Speidel Minengesellschaft* of Pforzheim, Germany, has mined extensively for zinc oxidized ore, planning its development work on one hand from the disposition of the ancient workings, and on the other from assistance gained by a regular geological exploration of the island. According to this latter the following main features obtain.

The island consists of an alternation of highly crystalline and in places gneissic schists with marble of unknown geological age. At one or two places in the south-west of the island, as for instance at Cape Maries and near Hamidie, granitic intrusions of small extent have become exposed by the sea, these intrusions occurring partly in association with flat thrust-planes, so that no contact phenomena are observable. The Powder Mountain at Hamidie, in the immediate vicinity of the Vouves zinc mine, consists of a young eruptive so highly decomposed that a satisfactory determination of its identity is no longer possible. Many pebbles of andesite have been picked up on the shore, while mineral aggregates such as suggest a granitic contact zone, tourmaline for instance, have also been



round, though no contact zone *in situ* is known. The highly complicated tectonics receive best expression in the variety of the mountain shapes, complexity confirmed by a study of the ore-deposits.

# Ore Deposits on the island Thasos

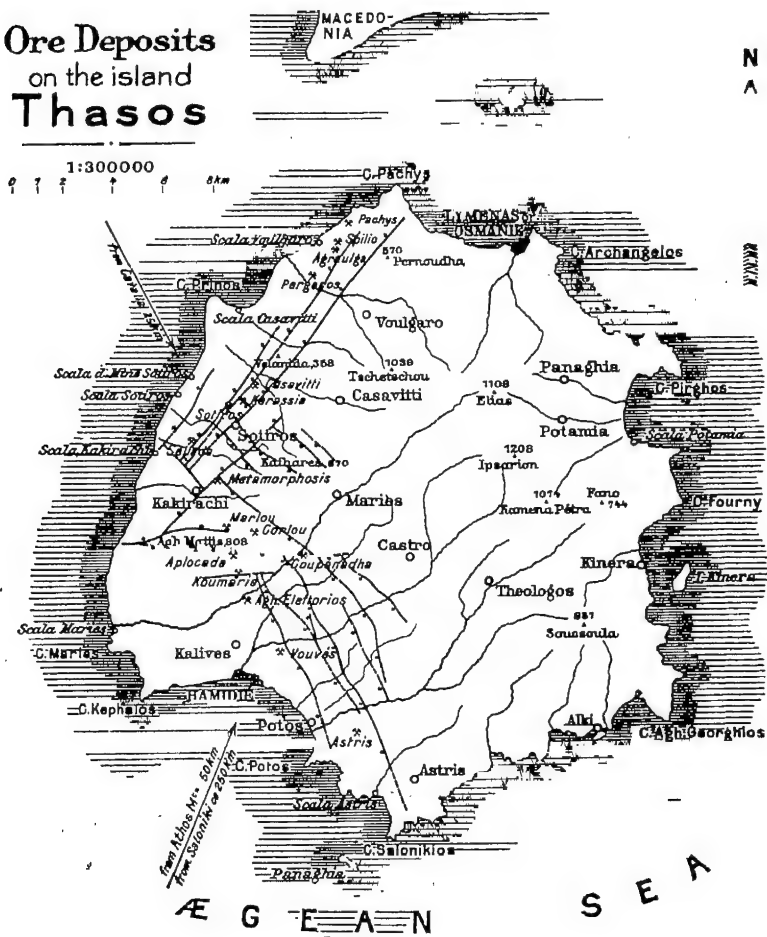


FIG. 350.—Map of the island of Thasos, showing the most important tectonic lines and the principal mining centres. Scale, 1 : 300,000.

The highest ground occurs in the east of the island in a fairly straight line from the Ipsarion Mountain 1205 m. high, over the Kamena Pétra 1074 m., to the Soussoula 857 m., in a south-south-east direction, as indicated in Fig. 350. While from these heights the descent to the east is steep and continues to the sea which is little more than 2 km. distant, that to the

west is gentle and to a large flat syncline occupying the central portion of the island where the villages of Theologos and Castro are situated. Of this syncline the other flank rises again near the west coast to a height, in the case of the Aghios Mattis, of 808 metres. This western flank, extending from the most southerly point, Cape Salonikios, to the most northerly, Cape Pachys, is traversed by many fault zones, along which an intense dolomitization of the marble and a mineralization recognizable even from a distance by the strongly ferruginous colour of the ground, are associated. With these fault zones all the more important ore-deposits upon the island are connected.

While in the district extending from Cape Salonikios across the Astris and Vouves mines and the Maries valley to the Aghios Mattis, a north-west

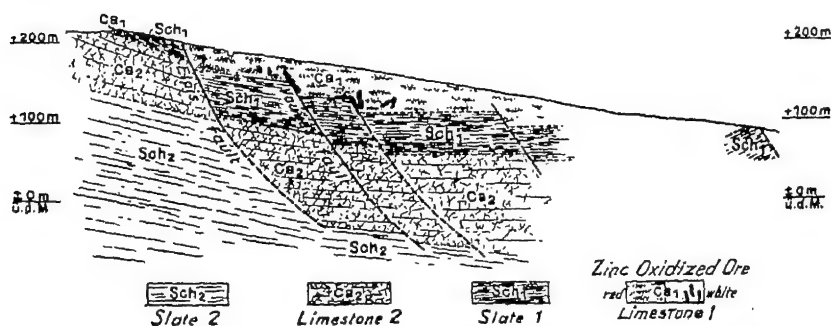


FIG. 351.—Section across the formation at the Vouves mine, Thasos. Beyschlag.

striking fault-system predominates, from that hill into the district where the Marlou and Corlou mines are situated an east-west system is more important, this finally giving way to a north-east system in the district which extends from Metamorphosis through the Sotiros and Casavitti mines to the Pergaros, Spilio, and Pachys occurrences, these latter being situated not far from Cape Pachys. It must be remarked however that in any one place, beside the main fault-system the other two systems are always represented; in fact the principal occurrences, those at Vouves, Marlou-Corlou, and Sotiros, are manifestly at places where numerous intersecting and converging fissures meet. The course of these faults on surface is often very distinctly indicated by the uneven character of the contours, and often also by differences in the vegetation consequent upon the repeated change from marble to slate. In areas of greater dolomitization and mineralization however, the tracing of the faults is more difficult.

With all these occurrences zinc oxidized ore plays the principal part. It occurs in all varieties, from a completely white, botryoidal, pure mineral-aggregate through all gradations of admixture with iron and dolomite, to

zinciferous limestone. Schalenblende is very uncommon, while friable galena, with varying silver content and the appearance of having suffered corrosion, is quite common. Calcite occurs to a small extent and generally in fissures, while barite in places is found intergrown with the ore.

As indicated in the longitudinal section of the Vouves opencut given in Fig. 351, the ore is associated with fissures and often concentrated along the impermeable planes where dolomitized limestone lies bedded upon slate. The considerable richness of this mine is due to the white, pure oxidized ore which, having been formed by secondary migration of the zinc content, contains no galena. In this it differs from the original ore.

The occurrence at the Marlou-Corlou mines is associated with disturbed country wherein a wedge-like section of slate is found enclosed in limestone. The solutions ascending along one side of this wedge were so rich in silica and silver that the dolomite along the fissure was completely altered to quartz with a variable and in part high silver content. Farther from the fissure the dolomite was less completely replaced by quartz, though for some distance it continued to be argentiferous. Along the fissure the irregular nest-like metasomatic oxidized zinc deposits occur. In these, near the fissure, a good deal of lead occurs, then purer zinc ore, and finally, farther from the actual fissure, zinciferous and ferruginous dolomite, and limonite. At the Sotiros mine the zinc deposits proceed from the fissures in the form of irregular bed-like masses dipping gently into the hill.

Although to-day these zinc deposits often occur as a surface formation below the gossan, there can be little doubt that they owe their origin to solutions ascending from depth. In addition, it is probable that in greater part they are not the result of the alteration of sphalerite, but were formed primarily as carbonate and silicate. The solutions themselves may probably be referable to the granite magma. Such a genesis is suggested by the occurrence at Marlou, where the ferruginous and zinciferous solutions penetrated far into the rock, while those containing silver and silica remained in the neighbourhood of the fissures. A sample of granite taken by Beyschlag from the neighbourhood of Cape Maries contained 44 grm. of silver per ton, this fact suggesting the probable proximate source of the silver. Silver, galena, zinc carbonate and silicate, and barite constitute therefore the primary sequence; while from the surface, limonite, white and brown zinc oxidized ores, accompanied first by cerussite and lower down by galena, mark the course of the secondary alteration.

The production of zinc ore from Thasos in 1910 was about 30,000 tons.

## THE SILVER-LEAD DEPOSITS AT LEADVILLE, COLORADO

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Leadville lies in the Arkansas valley upon a terrace at the foot of one of the western spurs of the Mosquito Range. The mines, which have made this district during the last thirty years one of the most important producers of silver, gold, lead, and zinc, in the western United States, are found two or three miles east of the town. From this situation however, mining operations have of late extended to the west under the terrace upon which Leadville is situated, the last most excellent monograph by Emmons concerning itself exclusively with the occurrence immediately at the town.

The Arkansas valley, which extends in a north-south direction from Tennessee Pass to Salida, owes its origin to a geologically recent depression occurring between the Sawatch Range to the west and the Mosquito Range to the east. The Sawatch Range is an oval massive consisting of gneiss, granite, and schist, considered to be of Archaean age, upon which Cambrian and younger sediments have been so laid down that their combined outcrop mantles the oval completely, though the beds are not on all sides the same. The Mosquito Range is a chain of mountains striking north-south and having individual points which reach to heights of 13,000–14,000 feet. It consists in greater part of Palæozoic beds which to the east are overlaid by others of Mesozoic age. With these old sediments considerable masses of eruptive rocks in the form of sheets and laccoliths are interbedded, these eruptives being older than the tilting of the beds. This tilting appears to have been caused by pressure from the east, which, affecting sediment and eruptive alike, formed a number of asymmetrical anticlines and synclines, having their steeper limbs to the west. These are traversed by a number of north-south faults. Following this orogenic period came a time of erosion to which the present contours are mainly due. The large depression of the Arkansas valley was excavated on the east side of the Sawatch Range, approximately along the old coast line. The geological position of the deposits is represented in Figs. 352 and 353.

Along that portion of the Mosquito Range where the Leadville district

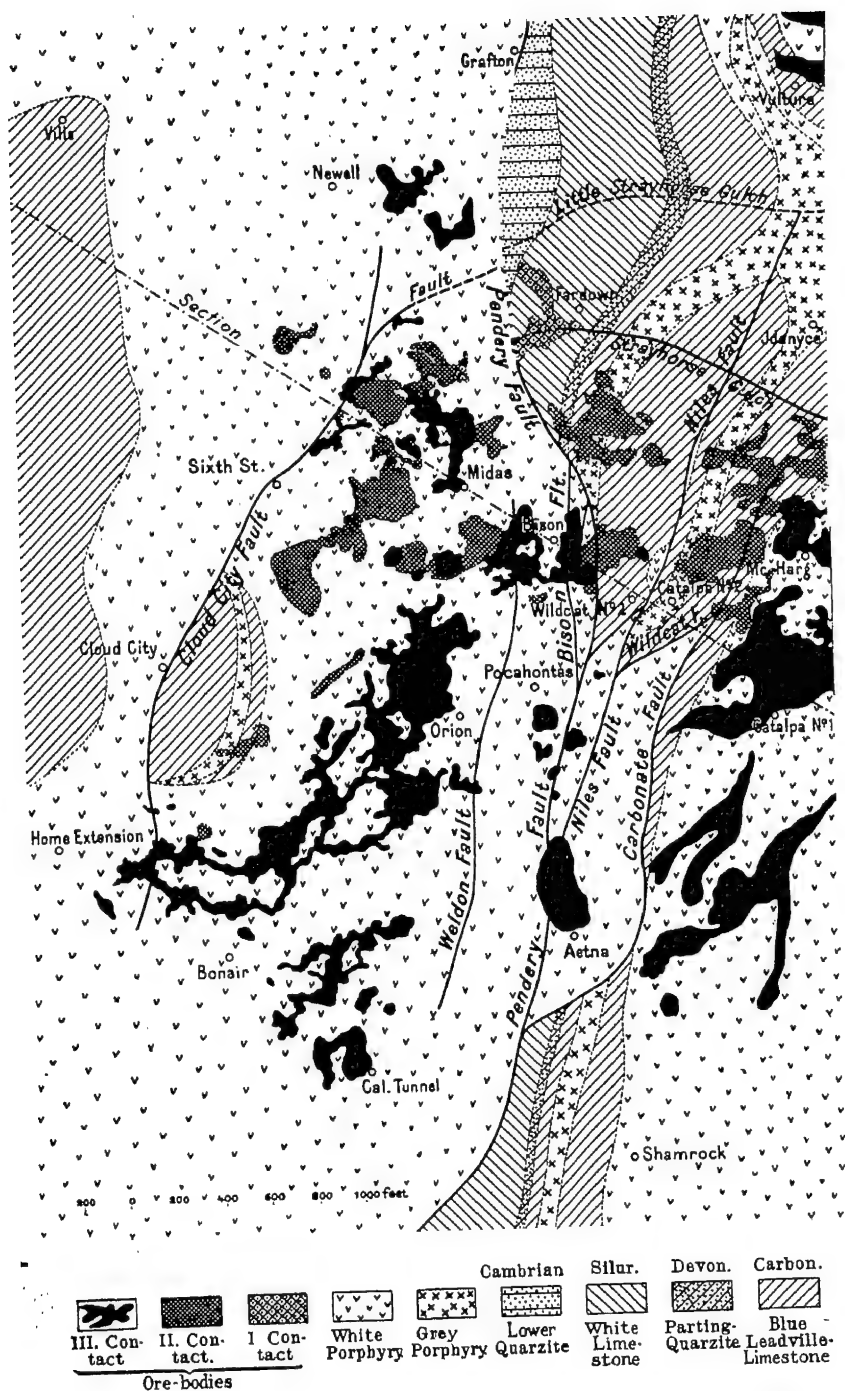


FIG. 352.—Geological map of a portion of the Leadville district, showing the extension of the different formations and ore-bodies. Emmons and Irving, Washington, 1907.

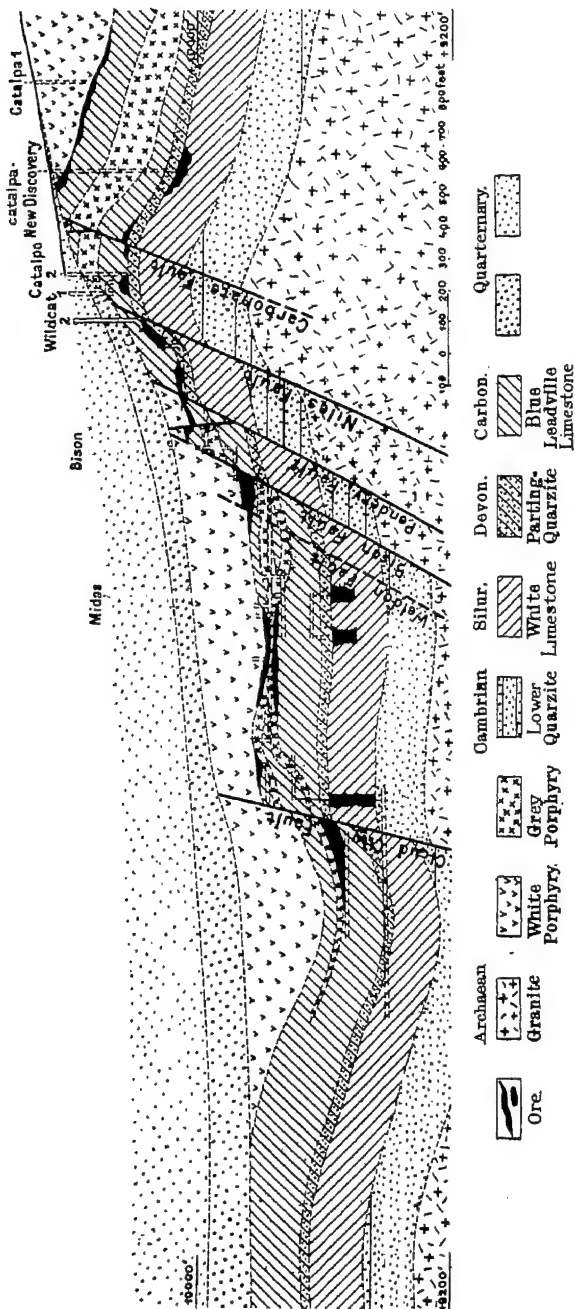


FIG. 353.—Section through the Leadville district along the line indicated in Fig. 352. Emmons and Irving, Washington, 1907.

is situated the eruptive rocks preponderate, and the contour of the district is conditioned rather by faulting than by folding, while the landscape presents itself as an accidented rather than an undulating country. Thus, a number of steps bounded by faults are formed, the most prominent of these on the surface being known as Breece Hill, Iron Hill, Carbonate Hill, and Fryer Hill, respectively. Among the sediments participating in this geological complex the more important are, the Lower quartzite, which is probably Cambrian; the White limestone of the Silurian; the Parting quartzite of the Devonian; and the extremely important blue Leadville limestone, which is of Carboniferous age. Among the eruptive rocks, those known locally as the Grey and White porphyries are the most important. The grey variety is a monzonite- and quartz-monzonite porphyry, while the white is regarded as a rhyolite-porphyry. From Fig. 352 it is seen that the latter occupies large areas of the surface and usually lies upon the blue Leadville limestone. The grey porphyry, on the other hand, is generally interbedded in that limestone, though it may also occur in actual contact with the white porphyry. The basement rock, which here is covered by Cambrian quartzite, consists of granite. The youngest formation of the district is represented by Quaternary terrace deposits.

The ore-deposits are invariably associated with limestone, appearing more particularly in the blue Leadville limestone between the white porphyry above and the grey porphyry below, this horizon being known as the first contact. A second and somewhat deeper horizon occurs in the same limestone, between the grey porphyry and the Parting quartzite at the bottom of that limestone. Finally, ore is also known to occur at a third contact still deeper, at some point between the Parting quartzite and the granite, usually in the White limestone but sometimes also in the Lower quartzite. The walls of the ore-bodies are not always recognizable underground as ore and country-rock pass gradually into each other.

The primary ore was doubtless deposited as sulphides, chiefly as galena, sphalerite, and pyrite. These minerals by the action of meteoric waters became altered to oxidized ore down to considerable depths. From the pyrite, ferric sulphate was first formed, and later iron-ochre and limonite, this latter containing considerable amounts of silver, anglesite, and other minerals. The ferruginous solutions transformed the surrounding limestone into iron ore with varying proportions of silica and manganese. The sphalerite upon oxidation appears to have become entirely removed or to have become concentrated below the oxidation zone. Dechenite, the vanadium salt of lead and zinc, though seldom, does occur. Concerning the galena, this mineral being less easily decomposed by oxidation than pyrite or sphalerite is often found in the oxidation zone. Part of it, however, is altered to anglesite and cerussite, the sulphate and carbonate

respectively. Large masses of pure cerussite free from anglesite, on the one hand, and smaller masses of anglesite without cerussite, on the other, are found. Pyromorphite likewise is common. Cerussite occurs sometimes as loose sandy carbonate, and sometimes as hard carbonate. In the first condition it consists of a collection of imperfectly crystallized grains of cerussite of remarkable purity, and as such is found in particularly large masses immediately below, or in the neighbourhood of the porphyry contact. The hard carbonate, on the other hand, is a mixture of quartz and cerussite, somewhat resembling jasper in appearance and doubtless the result of silicification. This hard carbonate is irregularly distributed in masses of iron ore, and particularly in the immediate vicinity of large patches of the sandy carbonate.

The sandy carbonate has usually the lowest silver content in relation to the lead present, this content being 20-40 oz. per ton with 50-70 per cent of lead, while the hard carbonate usually contains one ounce of silver for every one per cent of lead. The galena of the secondary zones is extremely rich in silver, containing occasionally more than 100 oz. per ton. It represents therefore a typical cementation galena. The silver content of the primary sulphides is probably chemically combined with these sulphides. According to the few analyses available it appears to be more abundant in the sphalerite and galena than in the pyrite, though its presence in the latter may always be demonstrated. While fresh galena and sphalerite may contain 50 oz. or more per ton, with pyrite scarcely more than 10 oz. may be expected. In the oxidation zone the silver is found more often as light-green chloride containing a little bromine and iodine. This mineral generally occurs along the cleavage-planes of other minerals, though in places it also appears in small masses by itself. Native silver is occasionally found in the richer portions of the deposits, and particularly along the upper contact. Generally the silver content of the oxidation ore diminishes in depth, this relation of content to depth being also expressed in the fact that the upper contact is the richest. The small amount of gold found at Leadville seldom reaches more than one-hundredth part of an ounce per ton; it is most intimately associated with the silver. At some places in the district traces of gold telluride have been found.

The difference between the amount of manganese contained in the sulphide ore and that in the oxidized ore is worthy of remark. Rhodonite and rhodochrosite, which with most deposits are primary manganese ores, are not found in the sulphide ore of Leadville. As the result of a large number of analyses the manganese content of this ore was shown to be seldom more than 2 per cent, and on an average not to exceed 1 per cent. Yet the large masses of iron ore occurring in the oxidation zone contain a considerable though variable percentage of manganese oxide, this being



reflected in the dark colour of the ore. It would appear as if the upper portion of the oxidation zone near the contact with the overlying porphyry were the richest in manganese, the ore there often containing 15-25 per cent of manganese oxide with 20-30 per cent of iron oxide.

Opinions concerning the genesis of these deposits have greatly altered with the lapse of time. According to Emmons and Irving, the Leadville sulphide ore represents a metasomatic replacement of the country-rock, principally of limestone, this replacement having taken place after the intrusion of the porphyry but before the beds were tilted. The evidence of this posterior limit lies in the fact that the ore-bodies are cut off by the faults brought about at that tilting, which probably took place at the end of the Jurassic and before the beginning of the Cretaceous. The deposits therefore are pre-Cretaceous.

The importance of the Leadville district may be gathered from the following figures: in the year 1908 the Leadville mines produced 33,127 tons of carbonate ore, 117,423 tons of oxidized ore, 162,188 tons of sulphide ore, 70,197 tons of zinc ore, 92,187 tons of quartzose ore, and 1500 tons of manganese ore, making a total of 476,622 tons, which contained 68,135 oz. of gold, 3,509,378 oz. of silver, 9005 tons of lead, 3205 tons of copper, and 16,846 tons of zinc. As in the same year the total lead production of Colorado was some 28,000 tons, of this the Leadville district contributed approximately one-third. For comparison, the total lead production in the United States during that year was 314,067 tons.

## THE OCCURRENCE OF SILVER AT EUREKA, NEVADA

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The Eureka mountains consist of limestone, quartzite, sandstone, and slate, of Cambrian, Silurian, Devonian, and Carboniferous age. These formations, having a total thickness of many thousands of feet, have been subdivided in a most detailed manner by Hague. The Cambrian system, which here is of particular interest, is represented by the following sequence; first a brownish-white quartzite 1500 feet in thickness with intercalated argillaceous beds, this quartzite being known as the Prospect Mountain quartzite; then an overlying grey compact limestone more than 3000 feet thick, the Prospect Mountain limestone; then yellow and grey shales, known as the Secret Cañon shales, among the upper members of which thin beds of limestone are found; next the Hamburg limestone 1200 feet thick;

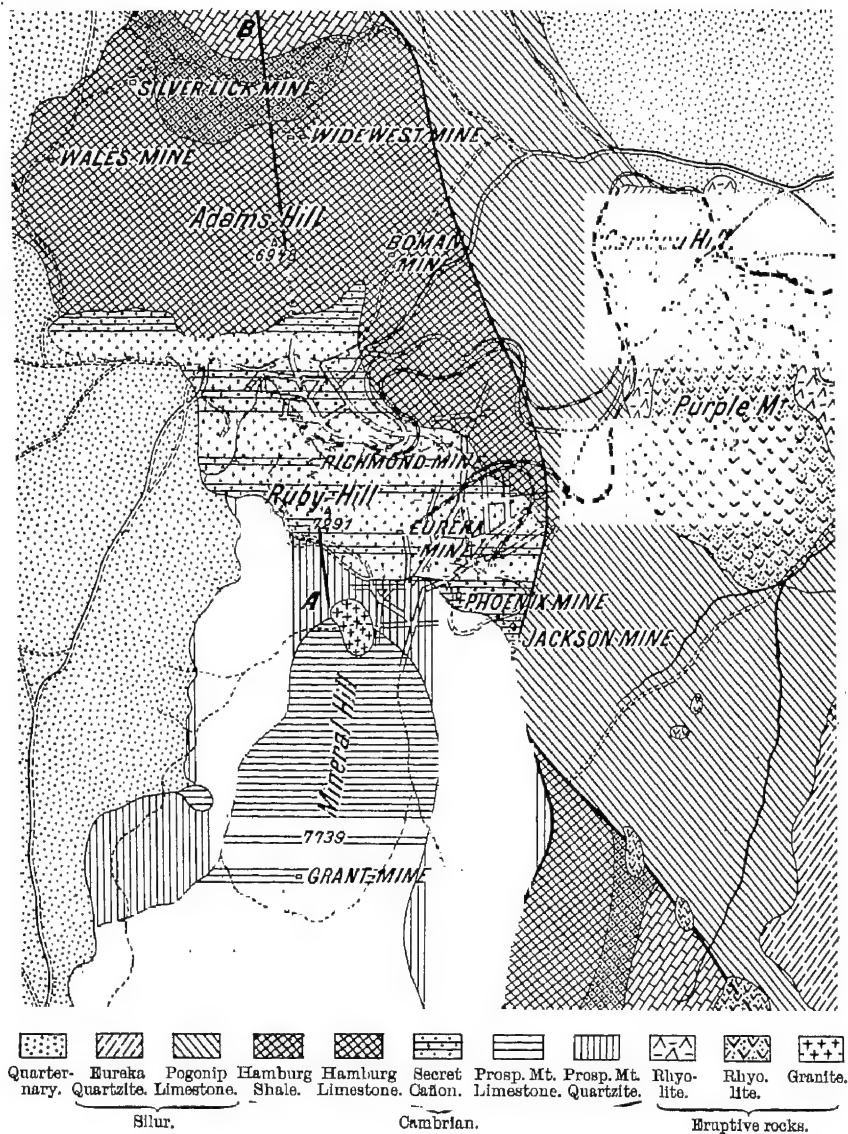


FIG. 354. Geological map of the Eureka district. Hague.

and finally a yellow shale. All these are cut by a large number of faults.

The ore-deposits in their occurrence are limited to the Cambrian limestones, none being known below the Prospect Mountain limestone. In that

mestone however, from its lowest sections right to the Secret Cañon shales above, deposits are numerous. On the slope of Prospect Mountain, from Mineral Hill southwards to Surprise Peak, the limestone is traversed by fissures and irregular cavities of varying width and extent. Many of these run parallel to the bedding, while others cross it apparently at any angle. In the cavities oxidized ore-bodies are met, many of these being connected with one another by narrow channels or seams more or less filled with ore. The Williamsburg mine to the west exhibits a good example of a deposit filling an irregular cavity, while to the east the Geddes and Bertrand mine lying to the extreme south, works a well-defined fissure-ling. In the latter mine a large east-west rhyolite dyke traverses the mestone and the overlying shale.

The second ore horizon is the Hamburg limestone, which on Adam's

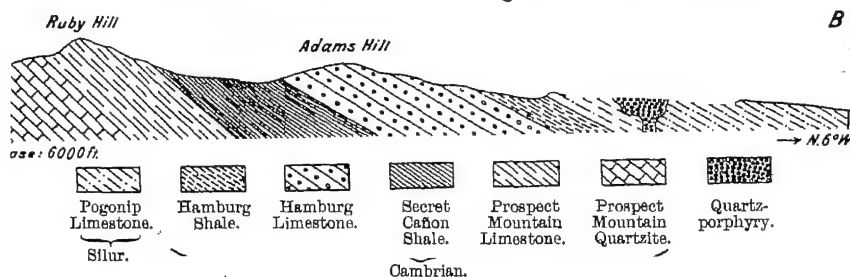


FIG. 355.—Section through Ruby Hill and Adam's Hill in the Eureka district, along the line AB indicated in Fig. 354.

Hill and in the immediate vicinity of the Secret Cañon shales contains many ore-bodies. Those for instance worked in the Price and Davies mine belong to this horizon. Similarly, the Wide-West mine exploits ore occurring in the upper portion of this limestone close under the Hamburg shale.

In isolated cases ore is also found in still younger formations, as in the case of the Ruby Hill deposit. Ruby Hill consists of the three lowest Cambrian beds, the Prospect Mountain quartzite, the Prospect Mountain limestone, and the Secret Cañon shales, which dip north fairly regularly at an angle of 40°. The country is nevertheless greatly affected by different large faults known as the Ruby Hill fault, the Jackson Hill fault, etc., these being in close connection with large rhyolite intrusions which around Ruby Hill are fairly numerous. Since in many cases, in the Jackson and Dunderburg mines for instance, the ore is found along these faults, it is generally speaking younger than the intrusions.

The ore, chiefly galena and pyrite, was primarily deposited in the limestone from a complicated network of fractures. The primary ore

thus formed was subsequently subjected to an oxidation so long continued that to-day unaltered sulphides are practically never found above the ground-water level. The numerous carbonates, sulphates, arsenates, molybdenates, and chlorides of the oxidation zone are without exception rich in gold. Wulfenite, in brilliant lemon- or orange-coloured crystals, occurs in comparatively speaking large amount, giving to these deposits a resemblance to those at Bleiberg. An analysis of an average sample of the ore won during the year 1878 gave 35·65 per cent of lead oxide, 34·39 per cent of iron oxide, 2·37 per cent of zinc oxide, and 6·34 per cent of arsenious acid, with 27·55 oz. of silver per ton and 1·59 oz. of gold. The occurrence of tellurium, probably in association with bismuth, is interesting.

The geological age of these deposits can only be Pliocene or post-Pliocene. From their occasional association with rhyolite dykes no reliable conclusion may be drawn that there exists a genetic relation between the two.<sup>1</sup> The primary sulphides however doubtless came from depth, subsequent to which they suffered oxidation from meteoric waters.

## THE MISSOURI-MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT IN KANSAS, INDIAN TERRITORY, ARKANSAS, AND ILLINOIS

### LITERATURE

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The low ground to the north of the Gulf Plains and south of the Lake Superior area, is a wide expanse of flat-lying unaltered Palæozoic sediments, which to the west disappear under the Red beds and Cretaceous sandstones

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 557.

of the Great Plain, and to the east are bounded by the Appalachian Mountains which, though themselves consisting of Palæozoic beds, break the farther continuity by their complicated structure, the result of Permian orogenics. The low ground itself has suffered no great disturbance so that the beds lie almost horizontal; the predominating rocks are dolomite, limestone, slate, and sandstone, while of the coarser sediments there is an almost complete absence. These rocks lie upon a pre-Cambrian crystalline basement which comes to surface all around this area. Eruptive rocks, but for a few dykes, are absent. The sediments range from Middle Cambrian to Permian; they represent the product of uninterrupted and regular deposition upon an even floor.

In this vast district where mining began in the year 1719, three centres may be distinguished: (1) South-eastern Missouri, with a yearly production of lead, iron, and copper to the value of approximately 120 million dollars; (2) South-western Missouri and the adjoining portions of Kansas and Indian Territory, with a yearly zinc and lead production of 118 million dollars; and (3) South-western Wisconsin and the adjoining portions of Illinois and Iowa, the annual lead, zinc, and copper production of which reaches 60 million dollars.

In the Upper Mississippi or Wisconsin lead-silver district the ore occurs exclusively in Silurian beds consisting of Cincinnati slate; dolomitic galena-limestone, 135 m. in thickness, equivalent to the Upper Magnesian limestone of the Lower Silurian Trenton period; oil shale; limestone, 12-30 m. thick; greenish-brown shale; St. Peter's sandstone; and lower dolomitic limestone, 30-75 m. thick. These Silurian beds lie upon the Potsdam sandstone of the Cambrian system. The occurrence of ore is limited to the limestones. The mines have a depth of but 30-60 m. and no ore is found very much below ground-water level. Above that level it occurs either as 'sheets' filling vertical fissures in a practically undecomposed country-rock, the width of such sheets being seldom more than 3 inches, the length in the most favourable cases 100 feet, and the extension in depth generally 20 to 40 feet; or as 'openings,' these being the cavity enlargements in which the conditions for the deposition of lead ore were especially favourable; in these the galena is generally embedded in ferruginous clay. One such ore-body, that known as Levins lode at Dubuque, was 130 feet long, 45 feet high, and 30 feet wide. Where the dimensions are very irregular so that a series of such openings connected with one another by narrow channels exists, the occurrence is termed a 'crevice with pocket openings.' These are chiefly limited to the upper portion of the galena-limestone, while in the lower portions, flat sheets or flat openings, which generally extend horizontally and parallel to the bedding-planes, are the characteristic form of deposit. The difference between the vertical

and flat sheets lies entirely in the lay of the long axis. Above the ground-water level galena and zinc carbonate are the usual ores in the gash veins, while in the flats, sphalerite, galena, and marcasite occur, either in intimate intergrowth or in alternate layers.

The principal ore of these deposits is a very pure galena containing but little silver. This galena occurs crystallized chiefly as cubes and often accompanied by sphalerite and zinc carbonate. Pyrite and chalcopyrite are comparatively speaking uncommon; limonite on the other hand appears invariably to accompany the lead- and zinc ores. Calcite and barite are of small importance, while quartz and the compounds of lead with arsenic- and phosphoric acids, are almost entirely absent. The occurrence of mammoth bones and other bones with galena in cavities, is evidence of the time of formation and of the aqueous origin of the ore.

The most important mine of the district is La Motte, which began work as far back as 1720. The mines generally are irregularly distributed throughout the district in groups separated from one another by large barren stretches. According to Bain it would almost appear as if certain smaller basins were favoured by the ore-deposition. Some five-sixths of the lead-zinc production of the entire region is derived from the Wisconsin district.

In addition, the Missouri-Kansas occurrence with Joplin as centre, and that of Illinois-Kentucky, deserve mention. The geological position of the Missouri deposits is similar to that of the Wisconsin deposits but with this difference, that the ore occurs in the Lower Carboniferous Cherokee limestone which is overlaid by Upper Carboniferous beds and underlaid by slates. In the Illinois district the deposits are galena- and sphalerite lodes remarkable for the amount of fluorite they carry, this mineral being sometimes so abundant as to be mined at a profit.

Concerning the genesis of these deposits there is an extensive literature. Whitney, Chamberlin, and others, advocate a primary metal content in the limestone, which content subsequently became concentrated, the occurrence according to this view representing a special form of lateral secretion. Blake, Van Hise, and others, regard the primary ores as formed from ascending solutions, the former assuming these to have been hot springs and the latter artesian waters. Bain in his last work returns again to the idea of the original deposition of the metalliferous material from sea-water.

We, however, are of the opinion that the occurrences in the Mississippi-Missouri region owe their primary deposition to ascending solutions, the primary ores so deposited appearing to-day unchanged below ground-water level—the occurrence of fluorite in certain lodes, as Beck has rightly pointed out, supports this view—and that subsequently, by the action of

meteoric waters, a transformation of these primary ores to oxidized ores took place, such transformation being intimately connected with oxidation-metasomatism. The occurrence of the galena deposits in basin-shaped areas separated from one another by larger stretches of poor country, points in our opinion to conditions similar to those obtaining in Upper Silesia. In the Mississippi-Missouri district, also, fissures play a large part, so that it is not so much the basin-shape which has compelled the deposition of the ore in particular places, but the number of fissures there collected.

The importance of these deposits may be gathered from the following figures of production. In the year 1908 the Joplin district produced 259,609 tons of zinc ore and 38,514 tons of lead ore, distributed over the different States as follows :

	Zinc Ore.	Lead Ore.
Missouri . . .	220,638 tons.	33,335 tons.
Kansas . . .	28,598 "	3,455 "
Oklahoma . . .	10,373 "	1,724 "
Totals . . .	259,609 tons.	38,514 tons.

The total production of zinc ore in the United States in the same year was 838,377 tons, to which Missouri-Kansas contributed 273,420 tons and Wisconsin 58,135 tons.

## SALA, SWEDEN

### LITERATURE

HJ. SJÖGREN. 'The Sala Mine,' Guide to the International Geological Congress, Stockholm, 1910; 'Über das Auftreten des Silbers in dem Sala-Erz und über Amalgam von Sala'; 'Über Gediegen Silber, Quecksilber, Amalgam und Zinnober von Sala'; 'Über Boulangerite von Sala,' in Geol. Fören. Förh. XIX., XX., XXII., 1897, 1898, 1900 respectively.—J. H. L. VOGT. Manuscript upon Sala, 1905.

As already stated<sup>1</sup> and as indicated in Fig. 241, Sala lies some 100 km. west-north-west of Stockholm in an area of crystalline schists, and more particularly in the youngest Archaean hälleflinta. At Sala itself, a considerable area of limestone-dolomite occurs surrounded by hälleflinta and granite, this area being about 7.5 km. long and in the neighbourhood of the mines, to the south, about 1.5 km. wide. In greater part, and particularly in the neighbourhood of the deposits, this rock has suffered dolomitization, normal dolomite consisting of one part of  $MgCO_3$  to one part of  $CaCO_3$  having extensively resulted.

Two different ores occur, one a silver-lead ore and the other a zinc

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 379.

ore. The first, containing but a few per cent of lead, consists of argentiferous galena with a fine-grained, generally microscopic admixture of argentite, pyrrargyrite, etc., some sphalerite, pyrite, arsenopyrite, and rare antimony- and copper minerals. The second contains chiefly sphalerite with a little galena and pyrite, but practically no copper. In this zinc ore particularly, and perhaps exclusively, some cinnabar with native quicksilver and amalgam occurs, the ore on an average containing at least 0.01 per cent of quicksilver. Both these ores are found in the dolomitic limestone over an area 800 m. long and a hundred or two hundred metres wide. Roughly in the middle of this area a large fault-zone often several metres wide occurs, which, as indicated in Figs. 356 and 357, is accompanied on both sides by a number of similar but smaller fissures.

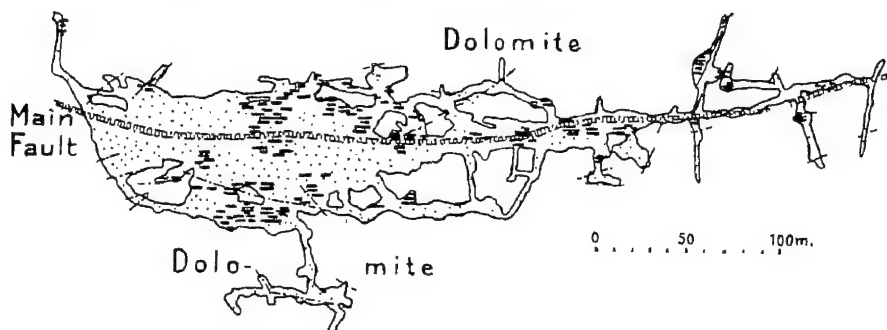


FIG. 356.—Horizontal section of the Sala mine at a depth of 190 metres. Sjögren, 1910.

The filling of this zone consists of crushed fragments of dolomite, with calcite, talc-, chlorite-, and serpentine minerals, etc.; metalliferous minerals, apart from a little pyrite and associated sulphides, are absent.

The silver-lead ore occurs in steep chimneys and net-like impregnations within the dolomite and in the neighbourhood of the fault-zone. In the upper levels particularly, which were exhausted centuries ago, the ore was very argentiferous. In depth the deposit has become poorer, though the mine, which is now four hundred years old and whereof many of the workings have collapsed, has only reached a vertical depth of 275–300 metres. The ore-body pitches at an angle away from the line of dip.

The zinc ore forms in the dolomite flatly-dipping pipes 6–12m. wide, enclosing many fragments of dolomite and throwing off many branches.

The strike of the limestone-dolomite bed in the neighbourhood of the mine is north-north-east, that of the main ore-body, north-north-west, and that of those zinc deposits which have so far been investigated, N. 5° E. In view of this disposition and the brecciated character of the ore, the deposits cannot be of sedimentary origin. The differences



between the silver-lead ore and the zinc ore, both in respect to mineral-character and to strike, may, according to Vogt, be because the two classes of ore were probably not formed at exactly the same time.

The ore is intermixed more particularly with the mineral salite—a variety of diopside named after this place where it was discovered—the amphiboles tremolite and actinolite, and some biotite, talc, chlorite, serpentine, epidote, garnet, and tourmaline, the last few minerals being however very uncommon. In one of the zinc ore-bodies a considerable amount of barite was also found.

The mineralization is younger than the dolomitization. The fault-zone and the mineralization are, according to Sjögren, associated occurrences and approximately contemporaneous. The action of silicated solutions upon the dolomite brought about the formation of the lime-magnesian silicates, salite, tremolite, etc., simultaneously with the deposition of the ore. In many respects the occurrence at Sala agrees closely with the ordinary silver-lead-zinc deposits. The occurrence of salite, tremolite, etc., constitutes however a

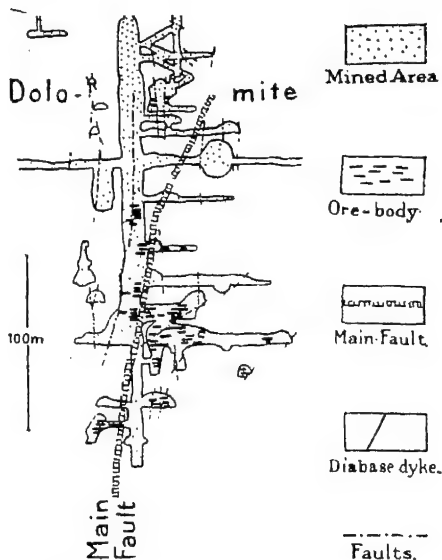


FIG. 357.—Cross section of the Sala mine. Sjögren, 1910.

marked difference which, according to Vogt, may perhaps be explained in that the mineralization took place under physical-chemical conditions similar to those obtaining at the formation of contact-metamorphic deposits.

Mining upon this particular deposit began in the year 1500 and reached its zenith in the first half of the sixteenth century. The total production amounts to some 400 tons of silver, made up as to 200 tons obtained from 1510–1600; 63 tons from 1601–1700; 37 tons from 1701–1800; and 87 tons from 1801–1908. Latterly the production of silver has almost ceased, while that of lead has always been small. Zinc on the other hand is now being mined; at Sala therefore, as with many other lead-zinc deposits, zinc mining has with time taken the place of silver-lead mining.

THE WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF LEAD- AND ZINC ORES AND THEIR  
DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF ORE-DEPOSIT

This we begin by a statement of the production of metallic lead and zinc taken from yearly compilations of the *Metallurgische Gesellschaft* of Frankfurt: <sup>1</sup>

	Lead.			Zinc.		
	1900.	1905.	1910.	1900.	1905.	1910.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Germany . . .	121,500	152,600	157,900	154,572	197,184	227,747
Belgium . . .	16,400	22,900	39,600	119,231	145,592	172,578
Holland . . .	...	...	...	6,953	13,787	20,975
Great Britain . . .	35,500	23,300	30,500	30,307	50,927	63,078
France . . .	17,000	24,100	21,000	42,117	50,369	59,141
Spain . . .	154,600	180,700	191,800			
Austria-Hungary . . .	11,900	13,500	17,500	7,086	9,357	13,305
Italy . . .	23,800	19,100	16,000			
Greece . . .	16,700	13,700	16,800	...	...	...
Sweden . . .	1,400	600	300	...	...	...
Russia . . .	200	300	1,200	5,968	7,642	8,631
Asiatic-Turkey . . .	2,800	10,400	12,700	...	...	...
United States . . .	269,000	312,500	371,600	112,234	183,245	250,627
Mexico . . .	80,000	75,000	126,000	...	...	...
Canada . . .	28,600	25,700	15,000	...	...	...
Japan . . .	1,900	2,300	3,500	...	...	...
Australia . . .	87,100	107,000	98,800	...	650	508
Other states . . .	3,000	200	12,900	...	...	...
Totals . . .	871,300	983,900	1,132,900	478,500	658,700	816,000

Since 1880 the lowest average yearly price for lead was £9 : 18 : 0 and £9 : 12 : 0 in 1893 and 1894 respectively ; and the highest £18 : 4 : 0 and £19 : 12 : 0 in 1906 and 1907 respectively. That for zinc was similarly £13 : 19 : 6 and £14 : 5 : 0 in 1885 and 1886 ; and £25 : 4 : 0 and £27 : 1 : 0 in 1905 and 1906 respectively.

Unlike the figures of production for metallic lead and zinc, those relating to the lead- and zinc ores produced by the different countries are generally very inexact, since in many cases these ores are sent to foreign works for treatment. This is particularly the case with zinc ores. Belgium for instance produces much metallic zinc though but little ore, whereas with Australia the opposite is the case. A good review of this subject has been given by W. Hotz in a paper entitled '*Die wirtschaftliche Bedeutung der Blei- Zinkerzlagertstätten der Welt im Jahre 1907 mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der genetischen Lagerstättengruppen*' in Part 2, 1910,

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 207.

of the *Bergwirtschaftlichen Zeitfragen* and in the April issue 1910 of the *Bergwirtschaftlichen Mitteilungen*, both published by M. Krahmann, Berlin. According to this authority the twenty most important lead deposits of the world in 1907, produced in that year lead ore to the following values :

Broken Hill . . . . .	£3,860,000
Missouri-Kansas . . . . .	2,280,000
Shoshone . . . . .	1,960,000
Sierra Morena . . . . .	1,550,000
Utah . . . . .	1,470,000
Mexico . . . . .	1,130,000
Leadville-Aspen . . . . .	1,080,000
Cartagena . . . . .	400,000
Iglesias . . . . .	324,000
Upper Silesia . . . . .	297,000
Rhenish Schiefergebirge . . . . .	294,000
Mazarron . . . . .	294,000
Tasmania . . . . .	280,000
Canada . . . . .	270,000
Crete . . . . .	245,000
Laurion . . . . .	196,000
Harz . . . . .	186,000
Nordengland . . . . .	181,000
Commern . . . . .	162,000
Carinthia . . . . .	157,000
Other occurrences . . . . .	1,245,000
Total . . . . .	£17,661,000

Of these occurrences those of Missouri-Kansas, Leadville-Aspen, Upper Silesia, Laurion, Carinthia ; several of those in the Sierra Morena, in Utah, Mexico, Iglesias, Nordengland ; and many others,<sup>1</sup> with a total lead ore production in 1907 to the value of at least 7 million sterling and perhaps even 7·5 million or 8·5 million, belong to the metasomatic group. The occurrences at Shoshone in Idaho, at Cartagena, Mazarron, Iglesias, and Crete, are lodes, though to some extent at any rate they are associated with metasomatic deposits. Typical lodes occur in the Rhenish Schiefergebirge, in the Oberharz, and at many places in the Sierra Morena and in Mexico,<sup>2</sup> etc. The value of the lead ore produced during 1907 from lodes may be estimated at 5·5 to 6·0 million sterling. The Broken Hill deposit we consider<sup>3</sup> as belonging to the contact-deposits, and that at Commern to the impregnations. It may therefore be said that of the total lead ore production in 1907, somewhat less than one-half was derived from metasomatic deposits, roughly one-third from the old and young lodes, while the remainder was divided among the other classes of deposit and more particularly contact-deposits, ore-beds, etc.

The ten most important zinc deposits in 1907, produced in that year ore to the following values :

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 717.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 650.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, pp. 399-402.

## ORE-DEPOSITS

Missouri-Kansas . . . .	£2,510,000
Upper Silesia . . . .	1,390,000
Broken Hill . . . .	735,000
Iglesias . . . .	656,000
Rhenish Schiefergebirge . . . .	525,000
Algeria . . . .	345,000
Poland . . . .	245,000
Mexico . . . .	186,000
Cartagena . . . .	176,000
New Jersey . . . .	162,000
Other occurrences . . . .	1,728,000
Total . . . .	£8,658,000

Beside the two principal occurrences of Missouri-Kansas and Upper Silesia, a number of other important zinc deposits belong to the metasomatic group,<sup>1</sup> so that the value of the total production of this group in 1907 was at least 5·5 million sterling and perhaps even 6·2-6·5 millions. From the lodes of the Rhenish Schiefergebirge, the Oberharz, Cartagena, and many other smaller districts, zinc ore to the total value of 1-1·25 million sterling was produced. In addition are the productions of Broken Hill and New Jersey from deposits regarded as contact-deposits, and that from deposits of other genesis. Altogether, therefore, at least two-thirds of the total zinc-ore production and perhaps even three-quarters, is derived from metasomatic occurrences, one-ninth to one-seventh from lodes, and the remainder from other classes of deposit.

For lead therefore as well as for zinc the metasomatic deposits are the most important class, this being particularly so in the case of zinc.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 717.

## THE ANTIMONY LODES

As may be surmised from the small yearly production of metallic antimony, lodes carrying this metal are not very numerous. Since antimony sulphide is one of those compounds which form sulpho-salts, the formation of antimony deposits is probably analogous to that of the cinnabar deposits.<sup>1</sup> Such an analogy is further suggested by the fact that stibnite, though only to a subordinate extent, accompanies cinnabar in its deposits. Morphologically however, there is this difference between the two, that stibnite occurs chiefly as a fissure-filling, while cinnabar occurs preferably as an impregnation in sandstone, etc.

Most antimony lodes, and perhaps even all, occur associated with eruptive rocks, being indeed often found within such rocks. Many, as for instance those of the Central Plateau in France, occur in connection with granite; while others are found associated with young eruptives of various composition.

Antimony lodes are usually simple lodes and possess but limited extension in strike. The extension in depth is also generally inconsiderable, a rapid pinching out in depth having often been established. The width of the lodes worked to-day is generally but a few decimetres and seldom as much as one metre. The distribution of the ore along the lode plane is not regular but subject to great irregularity. On account of the relatively small amount of antimony available in the earth's crust for natural concentration, none of the antimony deposits can be described as large.

Among the minerals found in antimony deposits, stibnite preponderates, following which come arsenopyrite, galena, sphalerite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, realgar, and orpiment. The stibnite occurs in fine-grained, occasionally almost compact or fibrous crystalline masses, which, with a little quartz admixed, often make up the entire width. The lodes occur either independently as a special type, or in connection with lead-silver lodes. Only those of great purity are worked as the market

<sup>1</sup> *Ande*, p. 457.

heavily penalizes impurities in the ore for sale. Such ore for instance should not contain more than 0.25 per cent of arsenic, nor more than 0.75 per cent of lead or copper. Quartz is the most prominent gangue; limonite, calcite, and barite are less frequent.

Antimony mining has nowhere attained to any great depth so that no definite primary depth-zones have been observed; the above-mentioned change from rich ore in the upper sections to poor ore lower down, must however be regarded as a primary variation. Of the secondary depth-zones only an oxidation zone has yet been observed and no secondary enrichment of antimony appears therefore to take place. The secondary ores resulting from the oxidation of stibnite are stiblite, valentinite, and senarmontite.<sup>1</sup>

The accessory precious metal contained in stibnite is of particular interest. Gold often occurs, and stibnite should accordingly always be assayed for that metal. This association is so pronounced that all gradations are found between antimony deposits pure and simple and ordinary gold deposits.<sup>2</sup> If the gold content increase so that gold becomes the main object of exploitation, the demands which must be satisfied to ensure the payability of the deposit are quite other than those with pure antimony deposits.

The most important antimony deposits as far as the market is concerned are those of China, from which country a considerable amount of ore assaying 50 per cent of antimony is exported. France produces approximately an equal amount which however is consumed in that country itself. In addition, there are large occurrences in the United States from which country however there is likewise no export. Considerable deposits are also known in Australia, though there the costs of production are so high that these may only be worked with advantage during times of high metal price. Smaller occurrences with unimportant production are found in Spain, Portugal, Algeria, Hungary, and Bohemia. The parts taken by the different countries in the antimony market are illustrated by the following table pertaining to the year 1908.

England . . . . .	about 8,100 tons.
France . . . . .	5,000 "
Belgium . . . . .	800 "
Austria . . . . .	6,000 "
United States . . . . .	3,000 "
Japan . . . . .	300 "
Total . . . . .	about 23,200 tons.

The price of metallic antimony fluctuates greatly; in the year 1907, for instance, it varied from something less than £37:10:0 per ton to £110 per ton.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 101.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 601.

Antimony sulpho-salts such as tetrahedrite, pyrargyrite, stephanite, bournonite, etc., are comparatively plentiful in many lead-silver lodes of the older as well as of the younger group; stibnite also is found at times, though only exceptionally in any considerable quantity. In the treatment of these ores the antimony oxide collects, together with lead oxide, in the skimmings and by-products, these being afterwards worked for antimonial or hard lead. In the production of this technically so important antimony alloy, metallic antimony reduced directly from its ore is not used; indeed the application of this metal is in general fairly limited.

### INDIVIDUAL OCCURRENCES

#### LITERATURE

DUFÉNOY et ÉLIE DE BRAUMONT. Explication de la carte géologique de la France, 1841, p. 173.—HELMHACKER. 'Der Antimonbergbau Mileschau bei Krasnahora in Böhmen,' *Jahrb. der Vereinigten Bergakademien zu Leoben*, 1874, Vol. XXII.—C. BLOEMEKE. *Die Erzlagerstätten des Harzes*, 1885.—LÜDECKE. *Die Minerale des Harzes*, 1892.—F. POŠEPNÝ. *Arch. f. pr. Geol.* II., 1895.—A. LACROIX. *Minéralogie de la France et de ses colonies*, Vol. II., 1897, p. 449.—A. IRMLER. 'Über das Goldvorkommen von Bražna im mittleren Böhmen,' *Verhandl. der k. k. Geol. Reichsanst.*, 1899.—A. HOFMANN. 'Antimonitgänge von Píčov in Böhmen,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1901, p. 94.—F. KATZER. 'Zur geol. Kenntnis des Antimonitvorkommens von Krítz bei Rakonitz,' *Verhandl. der k. k. Geol. Reichsanst.*, 1904, No. 12.—F. FUCHS et DE LAUNAY. *Gîtes minéraux*, Paris, 1893, II. 193.—L. DE LAUNAY. 'Excursion à quelques gîtes minéraux et métallifères du plateau central. VIII.,' *Internat. Geologenkongress zu Paris*, 1900, Report II. p. 953.—*Mining in Japan, Past and Present*, published by the Bureau of Mines, 1909.

An interesting deposit is that at the Jost-Christian mine on the Wolfsberg in the Harz, where a lode, something more than one metre wide and occurring in the Lower Wiederschiefer, consists of prismatic and compact stibnite, together with federerz and lead-stibnite; while zundererz, boulangerite, and wolfsbergite are less common. The gangue consists of strontianite, calcite, barite, selenite, and fluorite.

Better-known occurrences are found at Píčov in the mid-Bohemian granite, some 4 km. north-west of Selčán, at the foot of the Deschnaberg. In the amphibole-biotite granite there, narrow kersantite dykes occur, with which the antimony lodes appear to be associated, these lodes usually containing decomposed kersantite. The lodes at their outcrop show abundant stiblite as the oxidation product of the stibnite, as do also those in the neighbouring districts of Schönberg and Mileschau. At Píčov, in addition, porous and cellular hornstone is found in casts after stibnite, in which casts the ochreous remains of the original crystals have settled down. Such decomposition reaches to a depth of about 18 metres. The Emil lode, which has been examined to an inclined depth of 62 m., strikes north-south and dips 40°–50° to the west, while in width it varies

between 10 cm. and 50 cm. The filling consists of milk-white or bluish hornstone with crystals of stibnite regularly scattered in radial aggregates throughout. Less frequently crusted structure is found, while in other places the stibnite preponderates, the separate crystals matting themselves together to form a compact aggregate. The blue-black colour of the lode material is due to microscopically small stibnite crystals. An interesting feature here is that at recrystallization the hornstone has become transformed to ordinary quartz, a phenomenon which Beyschlag and Krusch also observed in the gold-quartz lodes at Donnybrook.<sup>1</sup> The dark hornstone, according to C. Mann, contains 3.5 per cent of antimony. The other veins in the district form a network, the character of the vein material being very similar to that of the country-rock. In regard to genesis, Hofmann considers that mineral solutions carrying silica and stibnite were responsible for the hornstone, which is the cryptocrystalline variety of quartz, while the ordinary quartz occurring as stringers and nests in the hornstone is without exception secondary. Unlike the neighbouring lodes of Schönberg-Mileschau those at Příčov contain no gold.

The Schönberg-Mileschau antimony lodes have equal right to be considered gold deposits. They occur 55 km. south of Prague in a granite area traversed by kersantite dykes with which in several cases the lodes are associated. In contra-distinction to the occurrences at Příčov, the lodes here are quartz-stibnite lodes remarkable for the gold they contain, this not infrequently being discernible to the naked eye. This gold content however is not everywhere sufficient to warrant mining on its account alone; according to Hofmann<sup>2</sup> it varies between 4 and 17 grm. per ton. Genetically, Hofmann regards these lodes, as also those at Příčov, as a consequence of the intrusion of the granite, or perhaps of the kersantite. Another antimony lode occurs at Křitz in the neighbourhood of Rakonitz, at the contact of phyllite and diabase.

The antimony occurrence upon the Central Plateau in France is economically important, a large proportion of the lodes there occurring being payable. To the north, though still south of the Colettes granite massive, the Nades mine in the department of Bourbonnais works a deposit which occurs in the mica-schists surrounding that massive. Two lodes are known, which strike south 30° E. and of which the larger has a width of 1.20 metres. The gangue consists of quartz. This deposit was worked uninterruptedly from 1829 to 1837, after which date it remained untouched for fifteen years, when work was again begun.

Farther to the east near Bresnay in the department of Souvigny, two other lodes with similar strike to the above are found in a muscovite granite, this granite being similar to that at Magurka in Hungary. The lode-filling

<sup>1</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1900, p. 172.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*



nsists of quartz with stibnite, which latter near the surface is oxidized. Mining, which began here in the year 1763, ceased before the end of that century.

At Montignat in the west of the department Allier, in the rural district of Petite-Marche, another lode is known, which strikes about  $\text{N. } 30^{\circ} \text{ E.}$  and dips  $45^{\circ}$  to the east, along the contact of granite and gneiss. At Villerange, still farther to the west, an interesting lode occurs in Culm rauwacke, the geological age of this occurrence being consequently more exactly determinable. It is a quartz-stibnite lode striking east-west and dipping north; the quartz and the stibnite appear to be contemporaneous. To the south of Saint Yrieix, in the department of Haute Vienne, mica-schists or amphibole-schists are traversed by numerous granitic dykes which strike north-east and are 0.5–1 m. wide. These often carry quartz with stibnite; one such dyke, one metre wide, exhibits for instance two zones of a grey milky quartz, each 8–10 cm. thick and tightly impregnated with stibnite, enclosing between them a vein of solid stibnite 1–2 cm. thick. Other lodes are known at Chanac and Alfleury. At the former place they are 0.40–0.70 m. wide and occur in clay-slate, while at the latter they are quartz-stibnite lodes in gneiss, this gneiss being regarded as derived from granite.

The more important deposits of the Central Plateau are however those at Freycenet, La Licoulne, etc., in Puy-de-Dôme, Le Cantal et la Haute Loire, respectively. These occur as vertical lodes containing lenses of stibnite separated by barren stretches, in Archaean gneissic mica-schist or granite; a lens of compact stibnite 20–30 cm. thick and 12 m. long, for instance, will be followed by a barren stretch 10–15 m. long. The average thickness of the payable material is 15–30 cm. The stibnite is sometimes intimately intergrown with quartz. It almost invariably contains iron, a fact which is often insufficiently realized, with the result that too high an idea of the antimony content is obtained. At the outcrop, antimony oxide occurs in crystalline or amorphous masses of variable colour. These were formerly overlooked. Since 1889 however they have been carefully collected for export to England or Germany. At Freycenet a quartz lode contains lenses 30–40 cm. thick and up to 15 m. in length which consist of almost pure stibnite with but 8–10 per cent of quartz. These are separated from one another by quartz so impregnated with stibnite as sometimes to contain as much as 25 per cent of metallic antimony.

The deposits at La Licoulne in Haute Loire occur in an extensive gneiss plateau lying at an average height of 980 m. above the sea and furrowed by valleys eroded to depths of 200 metres. As country-rock we find all gradations from varieties which may be described as granite or such as greatly resemble mica-schist. The numerous stibnite lodes

belong to two systems, one striking N. 30° E. and the other N. 60° E. Geographically, in this important district four groups may be recognized, namely, those at Mercoeur, Montel, Valadou, and La Licoulne. At Mercoeur the Bissade lode is the most important. This may be followed for a length of 2500 m. along a strike N. 30° E., with a width of 30–60 cm., of solid stibnite accompanied by a little quartz. In places this lode breaks up into several veins. The separation from the gneiss is fairly sharp though veins and nests are occasionally found beyond the walls. At Montel the deposits have nowhere been exploited. At Valadou, on the other hand, a lode has been opened to a depth of 110 m., along a strike varying from N. 45° E. to N. 60° E. This lode occurs in very tough old slates which its presence leaves quite unaltered. In it the stibnite forms a number of shoots up to 30 cm. in thickness, and separated from one another by barren stretches. The stibnite here appears to contain more silver than that at Mercoeur. This lode is cut by a quartz vein striking N. 30° E. and containing nests of antimony ore. At La Licoulne there are several irregularly disposed lodes, of which the two most important have been investigated to a depth of more than 300 m. on the incline.

At Malbosc in the department of Ardèche, quartz-stibnite lodes with north-east strike traverse mica-schists, not far beneath which lies the La Lozère granite. An interesting feature of these lodes is that they carry some calcite and barite. The stibnite appears either in the form of well-defined nests, or as irregular, veins up to 10–20 cm. thick. The occurrence of these veins is very irregular and uncertain; sometimes they are out in the hanging-wall, sometimes actually on the wall of the quartz lode, while often they split up or die out completely. This irregularity has caused work upon these deposits repeatedly to be given up.

The occurrences in Japan are of great interest. In general these are lodes which traverse Mesozoic and Palæozoic formations, and but seldom are found either in the crystalline schists or in Tertiary rocks. They often occur in sediments near the contact with intrusions of quartz-porphyry, or in that eruptive itself. While in Japan the areas occupied by Mesozoic beds are in general remarkable for their poverty in other useful metals, they are comparatively rich in antimony. The most important deposits occur at Kano in the province of Suwo, where a lode in Mesozoic country is worked; at Hanta in the province of Yamato, lodes in similar country; at Taguchihara in the province of Hyuga, in similar country; at Ichinokawa in the province of Jyo, in crystalline schists and Mesozoic beds; at Nakase and Nakagawa in the province of Tajima, in Palæozoic beds; at Arahira in the province of Hyuga, in Palæozoic beds; and finally, at Amatsutsumi in the same province, but in quartz-porphyry. Geographic-

ally these deposits occur more particularly in the bend of southern Japan, and especially along the outer curve. The antimony production of Japan in the year 1907 was 562 long tons, and in 1908, 537 long tons.

### THE OCCURRENCES IN ASIA MINOR, ETC.

#### LITERATURE

BR. SIMMERSBACH. 'Die nutzbaren mineralischen Bodenschätze in der kleinasiatischen Türkei,' Zeit. f. d. Berg- Hütten- und Salinenwesen, 1904, Vol. LII. p. 515; 'Die wirtschaftliche Entwicklung einiger Bergbaubetriebe in der Türkei,' Verhandl. des Vereins zur Beförderung des Gewerbfleißes, 1906, p. 487.—K. SCHMEISSER. 'Bodenschätze und Bergbau Kleinasien,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1906, p. 186.

The occurrences of antimony in Asia Minor are found in the vilayets Brussa, Smyrna, and Siwas. That in Brussa is represented by lodes 0.1–2.0 m. wide, worked in a mine known as the Gômetschiftlik-Antimon-Madén belonging to the Sultan, situated 24 km. east of Gediz on the south-western slope of the Kysyl-Dagh. The yearly production is about 500 tons of antimony ore. Half a kilometre south of Demirkapu there are other antimony mines at Irvindi and Sülučkoi. In the vilayet of Smyrna, a double lode, the outcrop of which may be followed for 2 km., is worked in the Tschinlikaja mine 20 km. south-east of Oedemisch and 100 km. east-south-east of Smyrna, on the north-west slope of the Balam-boli-Dagh. The width of this deposit varies from a few centimetres to some metres. In 1898, 500 tons of ore valued at about £6000 were won. In the same vilayet, the mines near Rozsán and Aidin, and finally the Geramos and Kordelio mines, also occur. In the vilayet of Siwas, antimony ore has been opened up at Karahissar.

The deposit at Allkhar north-west of Salonika in Macedonia is well-known. As however no quartzose gangue is present and the country-rock in the foot-wall consists of limestone, this deposit may be a metasomatic occurrence.

Other antimony lodes are known at Bastia on Cape Corse in the north of Corsica, in Archæan sericite-schists. At Su Suergiu in Sardinia, lenticular masses of stibnite and pyrite occur in a zone several hundred metres long and 40 m. wide, in graphitic schists and calc-phylrites, presumably of Silurian age. In Tuscany, a lode one kilometre long is known to occur in Eocene and Miocene beds; while finally, in Portugal a number of occurrences are known at Casa Branca, Oporto, and Alcoutim, some of which are auriferous.

## METASOMATIC ANTIMONY DEPOSITS

## LITERATURE

BUFF. 'Geogn. Bemerkungen über das Vorkommen von Spiessglanzerzen auf der Grube Caspari bei Wintrop und auf der Grube Unverhofft Glück bei Nuttlar im ehemaligen Herzogtum Westfalen,' Karstens Arch. für Bergbau- und Hüttenwesen, 1827, XVI.—F. M. SIMMERBACH. 'Das Antimonerzorkommen auf der Casparizeche bei Arnsberg in Westfalen,' Jahrb. der Bergakademie zu Leoben, 1870, XIX.—H. B. VON FOULLON. 'Über Antimonit und Schwefel von Allohar bei Rozdan in Mazedonien,' Verhandl. der k. k. Geol. Reichsanst., 1890, p. 318; Beschreibung der Bergreviere Arnsberg, Brilon und Olpe, sowie der Fürstenthümer Waldeck und Pyrmont, 1890, p. 158.—R. HOFMANN. 'Antimon- und Arsenerzbergbau "Allohar" in Mazedonien,' Osterr. Zeitschr. f. Berg- und Hüttenwesen, 1891, Vol. XXXIX.—B. LOTTI. 'Die zinner- und antimonführenden Lagerstätten Toskanas und ihre Beziehungen zu den quartären Eruptivgesteinen,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1901, p. 41.

The geological position of the deposits of this class is uncertain and indefinite. Presumably they have arisen by replacement of limestone and dolomite of different ages. Usually they are distinguished by the absence of gangue. In the neighbourhood of the outcrop they are decomposed to stibnite, while the limestone is often altered to selenite and dolomite.

It is probable that the occurrence at Allkhar in Macedonia, briefly described above, belongs to this class. The hanging-wall of that deposit consists of mica-schist, the foot-wall of dolomite and limestone. The ore occurs in stringers and lenses without gangue, together with arsenic ores. The width of solid ore may at times be as much as 1.50 m., while the occurrence has been proved for a length of 4 kilometres. Near the deposit the dolomite is highly altered under formation of sulphur and selenite. A portion of the ore consists of realgar and orpiment.

The occurrence at Cetine di Cotorniano in the province of Siena, Italy, occurs between Eocene limestone and Permian slate, and consists of hornstone or lydian-like quartz, traversed by long crystals of stibnite, and by pyrostibnite, sulphur, quartz, calcite, etc.

The genesis of the deposit in the Caspari mine near Arnsberg in Westphalia still remains somewhat doubtful. Generally it is described as a bed; by Bergeat in his *Lagerstättenlehre* it is regarded as a lode-like occurrence; while according to Krusch it represents a metasomatic occurrence. The ore occurs in Culm limestone which forms the easternmost point of the Arnsberg anticline, this anticline inclining to the east till the limestone is covered by younger beds, more especially the Millstone Grit. An assumed air-anticline in the neighbourhood of the Caspari mine would join the north-west and south-east flanks of this anticline. The latter flank has been opened up by mining operations for a length of 1100

metres. This anticline is accompanied by a large number of secondary anticlines and folds which are traversed by numerous faults. The limestone in the neighbourhood of the occurrence appears dark and decomposed. Five metalliferous beds carrying stibnite in irregular segregations 5-15 cm. thick, are known. From these beds veins proceed into the limestone which itself contains a sprinkling of ore. On the north-west flank the ore, consisting chiefly of stiblite, is so impure as to be unpayable.

## THE IRON LODES

IRON deposits of magmatic, contact-metamorphic, metasomatic, and sedimentary origin being usually so large, it is exceptional to find an iron lode satisfying the demands of payability, and the number of districts where such lodes have been exploited is consequently not great.

The formation of iron lodes varies according to the particular ore contained, and in this respect, in general, only hæmatite, specularite, and siderite come into question. In a number of cases, as for instance in Siegerland and in the Harz, the lode-filling can either be proved to be, or put down in all probability as being of great age. The widely distributed Devonian system in Germany, for instance, is remarkable for the number of iron ore-beds found in it, while many of the German iron lodes are of Devonian age. These, in part at least, are genetically related to old eruptive rocks.

Since in many districts hæmatite- and siderite lodes occur together, both these ores were probably formed from the same solutions. In such cases, exactly what were the precipitants which brought these two minerals separately to deposition, has not yet been determined, further investigation is necessary. In the absence of oxygen, siderite becomes precipitated from a solution of ferric bicarbonate when the excess of carbonic acid which would keep it in solution as ferrous carbonate, escapes. Such escape may take place when in the course of circulation the carbonated solution from depth reaches the surface. In depth, the carbonic acid under pressure keeps the ferrous carbonate in solution; at a higher horizon where the pressure is lower, a portion of this acid escapes, and precipitation of siderite results.

In form, the iron lodes are generally simple lodes, the separation between ore and country-rock being sharp and definite on both walls. In length, they are generally limited to some hundred metres, though they are often collected together in series or groups which, as for instance in Siegerland and in the Zips country, may extend for kilometres. With regard to extension in depth, this, when considering the fissure alone, may

be considerable. When however the lode-filling or the payability of the deposit is considered, the case is different. In consequence of the keen competition from the more easily worked deposits of other genesis, and of the increase of cost with depth, work on many iron lodes has had to be stopped, even though the iron content was well maintained. The deepest mines in Siegerland are 425 m. deep, while in the Zips the adits penetrate to points 400–600 m. below the summit.

The iron lodes being often of great geological age have been greatly affected by more recent earth movements. It is consequently found that in addition to ordinary faults and overthrusts, which are hardly ever absent, the lodes, which is more rare with them, have also suffered plication and disturbance from vertical and lateral displacements, so much so that in many cases the original ore-body has been completely dismembered.

The distribution of the ore in the lode is not regular. The impression is often given that the original filling was fairly simple, or at all events more simple than that found to-day. Into this first filling, as a consequence of subsequent earth movement, other solutions penetrated again and again, gradually replacing the original filling. Did, for instance, that consist of much siderite and little quartz, at some later period a great part of the siderite would often be replaced by quartz. It is consequently frequently the case with siderite lodes that both in strike and dip bodies of pure siderite alternate with others containing much quartz. By weathering and erosion the siderite bodies of such lodes become easily disintegrated, leaving the quartz to project upon the surface.

Although it is probable that the quartz-carrying solutions which effected this alteration came from depth, it does not necessarily follow that siderite lode which is silicified at the outcrop is never good in depth, though that statement is often heard. Replacement does not proceed regularly from depth upwards, but begins at points favourable to its inception, the remainder of the lode between the silicified patches thus formed, retaining its original character.

Of greater interest than silicification however are the complex primary deposition of, and the secondary replacement by sulphides. In many cases small amounts of different sulphides, particularly pyrite and perhaps also halcopyrite, are deposited with the siderite. These two sulphides when present beyond a certain amount spoil the quality of the ore, chalcopyrite in this respect being worse than pyrite. Where the siderite is roasted before being smelted the presence of sulphur matters little, indeed at times it is even welcomed since the ore after roasting is more porous. But apart from the sulphur the copper content of chalcopyrite is prejudicial, so that while ore containing up to 0·4 per cent of copper is accepted, ore containing more than that amount is difficult to market. In some districts

there are in consequence mines which, formerly worked for iron, were stopped in depth because the permissible percentage of copper had been exceeded. On the other hand, when describing the copper lodes cases will be instanced where siderite lodes by increase in the copper content have gradually merged into copper lodes with as much as 3.5 per cent of copper, and have thus become very important.

In addition to these primary sulphides, secondary sulphides such as galena, sphalerite, and chalcopyrite, also occur. These, as indicated by the fact that they often occur along the walls or in separate veins within the lode mass, are the products of later solutions. Sometimes the original filling, and especially the siderite, has in greater part been replaced by such veins, it is then more difficult to recognize any such relative age. This replacement may be more or less complete; Krusch, in the lodes at Mitterberg near Bischofshofen, for instance, found pieces of ore which though now consisting of quartz and chalcopyrite, formerly, as indicated by unaltered kernels, belonged to a carbonate lode.

Such sulphides in siderite lodes are often more particularly seen in the upper levels, though the solutions from which they were derived undoubtedly came from depth. In appraising the possibilities of lodes of such great age as these, the varied age of the filling must be most carefully considered. Apart from the sulphides which have been mentioned, others have also been found, though not in amount sufficient to make them important.

The gangue-minerals may also be divided into those which are primary and those which are secondary. Quartz is always the most common. The carbonates are less frequent; where however they occur, isomorphous mixtures of calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, and ferrous carbonate, in the most varied proportions, are often found.

Since these lodes are generally simple lodes, rock inclusions do not play any important part; such as do occur represent pieces which have fallen from the hanging-wall into the fissure. The structure of the ore, in consequence of replacement, is complex. Not infrequently a crusted structure consisting of bands of siderite throughout which sulphides are disseminated, appears as the oldest structure. From this, by metasomatism arose either a secondary irregular-coarse structure, or a pseudo-brecciated structure still containing angular pieces of the original filling in considerable number; or finally, and expressive of complete replacement, a simple filling, as when quartz had completely replaced the siderite. A drusy structure is characteristic of the oxidation zone, this zone being further remarkable for its stalactites and reniform structure.

*Primary and Secondary Depth-Zones.*—Primary depth-zones have been observed in so far that metalliferous bodies are in depth succeeded by others which are siliceous. Since silicification is mostly secondary and in



many cases only local, siderite lodes containing much silica may in depth again become workable. The metasomatic replacement which results in silicification is in itself dependent upon the greater or less resistance presented; pure siderite, though chemically fairly uniform, may nevertheless, in consequence of varying internal structure, etc., behave itself variously towards such replacement, this fact being sufficient in itself to explain the possibility that in depth altered zones may alternate with others of clean ore.

Another primary depth-zone may be expressed in the distribution of the small copper- and sulphur contents, since both these metals may in depth increase or decrease; while a similar significance may also be read into the occasional occurrences of cobalt minerals. At Dobschau in Upper Hungary, for instance, iron ore was first found, then copper ore, and deeper still, cobalt and nickel ores. On the other hand, there are lodes in which the cobalt belongs to a higher zone than that containing siderite, and others in which there is a repeated sequence of cobalt-nickel- and iron ores.

When small amounts of lead and zinc occur with the siderite, it must first be determined whether these sulphides represent a later sulphide deposition consequent upon the re-opening of the fissure, or whether they are contemporaneous with the siderite. In the first case pseudo-depth-zones would arise wherein no regularity whatever would obtain, though perhaps even then the sulphides would preferably be deposited in the upper levels. In the second case, the observations recorded hitherto are not sufficient to allow any definite regularity to be stated, except perhaps that in lead-zinc lodes the siderite zone is seldom found above, but often below the lead-zinc zone.

That siderite by atmospheric agencies becomes hydrated and oxidized is of course a well-known fact. The vertical dimension of the oxidation zone so formed is variable, depending upon the climate and upon the relation between the activity of erosion and the advance of oxidation. In general, the alteration of siderite to limonite from the outcrop to depths of 10 m. or even 15 m. is not uncommon. Mineralogically these chemical-geological reactions are particularly interesting in that iron and manganese, which are both common to the siderite deposits, often become separated by oxidation. The ore resulting from these oxidation processes is generally gelatinous, that is to say, amorphous limonite and amorphous manganese minerals, such as psilomelane, wad, etc., are chiefly formed. In these amorphous masses, according to Cornu, the various forms of crystalline limonite, and especially kidney ore, are formed by recrystallization, such crystalline material filling the cavities and crevices. The porous and friable nature of the limonite gossan of such iron lodes is of particular importance to the miner and metallurgist. Similarly, from the amorphous

manganese ore, crystallized minerals such as pyrolusite are formed, though crystalline manganite and pyrolusite are sometimes formed directly and without passing through an intermediate gelatinous stage.

Unlike siderite, which generally does not contain more than 2 per cent of moisture, limonite contains at least 8 per cent and may contain as much as 15 per cent or even more. Where therefore the distance between the mine and furnace is great the transport cost of limonite will be considerable. On the other hand, though experience has shown that when the width of the siderite deposit is great the cost of mining in this material is not so high as might be expected, mining in the limonite gossan is easier than in siderite. It must however be remembered that though limonite has a higher iron content than siderite, the above-mentioned difference in the moisture offsets this advantage. When therefore the siderite is pure the difference between the mining cost in the primary and oxidation zones is on the whole not very considerable.

In relation to the iron content no cementation zone is known in these deposits, the primary zone follows immediately after the oxidation zone. When however a small copper content is present in the primary ore or silver occurs in any galena or sphalerite present, then between these two zones a silver- or copper cementation zone may occur, though this would in any case be unimportant, indeed in the presence of undecomposed siderite the concentration of these other metals is usually overlooked. Such a combination of fresh siderite with cementation minerals is however not uncommon, since the formation of the cementation zone demands the absence of oxygen<sup>1</sup> and the activity of reducing agencies only, conditions which are without effect upon the siderite.

On account of the low value of siderite, referred to in introducing this subject, only such lodes are suitable for exploitation as have a considerable width. The fact that but few siderite lodes are exploited does not therefore imply that but few exist; it betokens rather the many conditions to be fulfilled before such lodes become payable. There are, for instance, many large lodes unfavourably situated in regard to communication and far from coal or wood, and therefore unpayable. Where fuel is cheap or the distance between mine and furnace great, the siderite is roasted to an oxide which, chemically considered, approaches magnetite, and of which the iron content as compared with that in the original ore is as 7 : 5 or 13 : 10. This convenience may in itself occasionally be the chief factor in rendering a deposit workable. Even however under the best conditions the successful mining of small siderite lodes cannot be undertaken, since in relation to the value of the ore the cost of mining is too high. Accordingly, in Europe there are only two large iron lode-mining districts

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 140, 145.

n operation, namely, the Siegerland and Zips-Görmörer districts, the latter being in the Erzgebirge.

The amounts of phosphorus, manganese, and sulphur, contained in siderite are important factors. In Siegerland the phosphorus content for 1,862,244 tons was 0.05 per cent; for another lot of 110,708 tons, 0.05–0.75 per cent; and for a third lot of 9,850 tons, 0.75–1.00 per cent. The manganese content is usually high and generally higher than with most other iron ores. This is because at the deposition of siderite the  $\text{MnCO}_3$  in solution was simultaneously precipitated, while when oxides are precipitated the oxide of manganese is not precipitated with that of iron. In Siegerland the manganese content reaches 12 per cent, and the line between manganiferous iron ore and iron-manganese ore may therefore conveniently be put at this percentage. Normal Siegerland ore on which prices are based contains 9 per cent of manganese, whereas in that of the Zips there is but 2 per cent. The sulphur content in siderite varies considerably. In this connection those ores which contain so little sulphur that they may be smelted direct, are to be distinguished from those which must be roasted. These latter may naturally contain more sulphur since the greater part would be driven off in the roasting, while the iron associated with the sulphur would remain to benefit the ore.

The price of siderite at the mine varies with its distance from a furnace. By the Siegerland ironstone syndicate, for example, the price is based upon the content of the average ore, and then adjusted according to supply and demand. Under these circumstances the price within the last few years has varied between £9 : 15 : 0 and £6 : 10 : 0 per ten tons.

The lode-like hæmatite- and magnetite deposits must now be briefly described. These belong generally to the class of simple lodes, those of magnetite being much less frequent than those of hæmatite and specularite. The width of these lodes is usually small and generally under one metre. It is seldom that the iron oxide occurs crystalline as specularite, it is generally a compact earthy or fibrous hæmatite. Quartz, hornstone, and jasper form the gangue, carbonates and barite being uncommon. When magnetite and hæmatite occur together in the same lode it is a question—and particularly when eruptive rocks exist in the neighbourhood—whether the magnetite is primary, or whether it is secondary and the result of contact action upon hæmatite, etc.

Primary depth-zones may often be observed when hæmatite and manganese ores occur together. In such cases the manganese occupies a higher zone than the iron. It was formerly supposed that atmospheric agencies had little effect upon hæmatite and specularite. Experience has however shown that both these ores at the surface often become altered to limonite, and that lodes containing these oxides may have the same

gossan as siderite lodes; in fact even magnetite which is so uncommon in lodes, may by meteoric waters become changed to limonite.

## SIEGERLAND

### LITERATURE

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In the Lower Devonian of Siegerland, the southernmost portion of the province Westphalia, iron lodes occur chiefly in three districts, namely, a northern district between Müsen and Olpe; a central district between Siegen and Altenkirchen; and a southern district between Altenkirchen and the Rhine.

This Lower Devonian, of which the stratigraphy has not yet been completely determined, consists chiefly of clay-slates more or less arenaceous, sandstone, and grauwacke, these beds having been folded into north-east anticlines and synclines and subjected to a number of disturbances.

According to Denckmann, lodes occur in all the different stages, from

the Gedinnian, through the Siegen, and up to the Coblenz, though in these last they are considerably smaller. With the siderite lodes, lead- and zinc lodes carrying siderite also occur, these generally appearing around the margins of the siderite district and in all formations from the lowermost Devonian to the Upper Carboniferous. They have been particularly observed in the east, south-west, and north of this region.

Copper lodes, in which the copper content decreases in depth while quartz increases, are found exceptionally. These occur not only in the Lower but also in the Middle Devonian, cutting the hæmatite ore-beds and the accompanying diabase and schalstein which occur between the Middle and Upper Devonian. Where typical siderite lodes carry considerable copper in the upper levels, such copper generally does not continue below the ground-water level.

The well-known cobalt lodes, the occurrence of which is limited to the country between Siegen and Kirchen on both sides of the river Sieg, are of great interest. They are found only in the Lower Devonian.

The disposition of the siderite lodes is not uniform; they appear rather to occur in zones, swarms, or groups, following a direction more or less parallel to the main strike of the Rhenish Schiefergebirge, though between such zones or groups isolated occurrences are also found. Within the zones themselves the lodes strike most irregularly, this being even the case with the large main lodes, though these may maintain their strike for great distances. The term 'lode-swarm' or 'lode-group' suggested by Leybold and Bornhardt is therefore more descriptive than lode-series, which suggests a more or less parallel strike. The following swarms or groups may be differentiated:

Siderite lodes—

- The Schmiedeberg Group.
- The Gosenbach Group.
- The Kulenwald Group.
- The Eiserfeld Group.
- The Biersdorf Group.
- The Eisener Group.
- The Müsen-Silberberg Group.

Lead-silver-zinc lodes—

- The Johannessegen Group.
- The Niederfischbach Group.
- The Oberfischbach Group.
- The Obersdorf Group.
- The Altenseelbach-Wilden Group.
- The Buchhell Group.

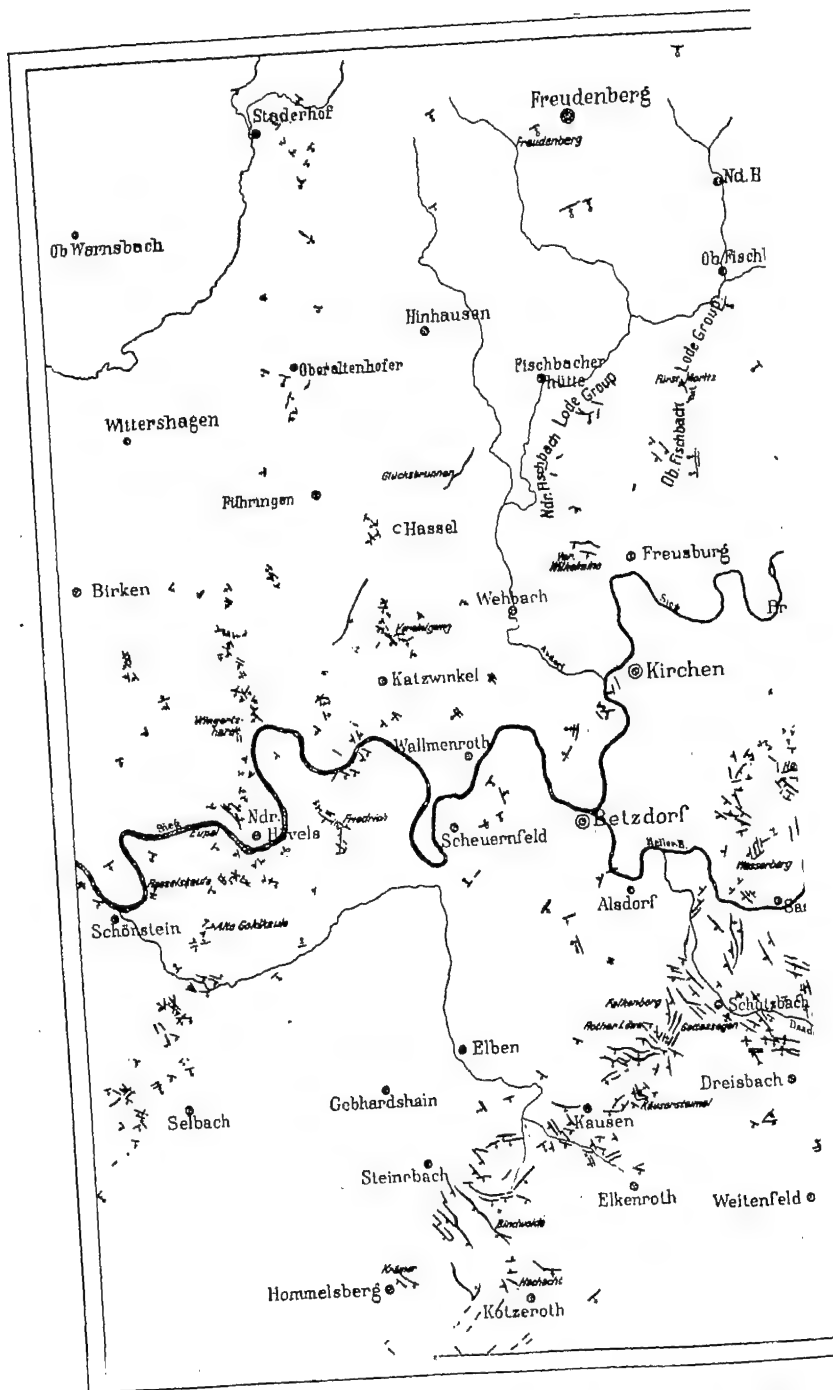
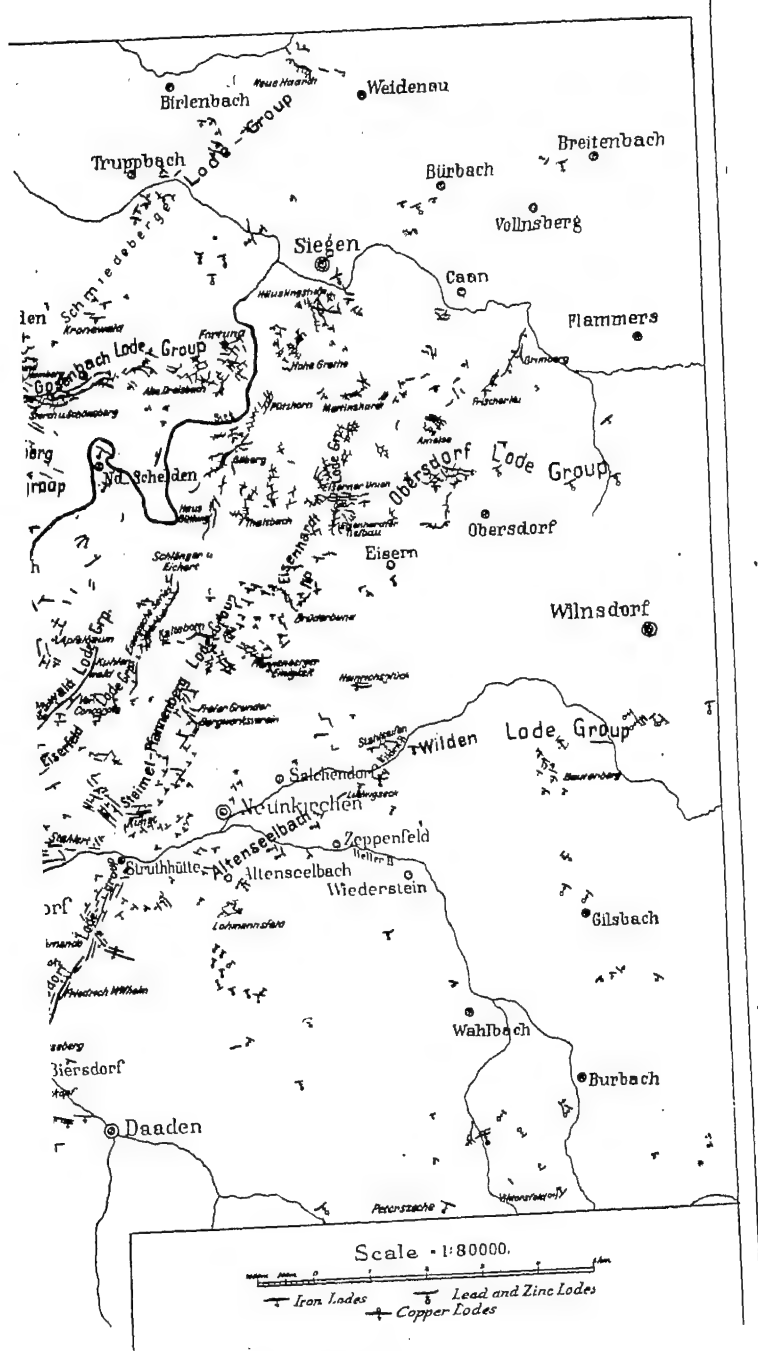


FIG. 358.—General map of the Siegerland siderite lode



maps attached to the official descriptions.

According to Denckmann, the limits to these groups are determined by tectonic and stratigraphical factors. The Müsen-Silberberg group, for instance, occurs within an uplift of geologically recent date; while a stratigraphical dependence shows itself in the agreement in extension between these groups and certain geological horizons. In this connection also, the fact that the fissures of these iron lodes coincide with the boundary fissures, branch veins, and cross-courses of subsidences presumably formed in upper Middle Devonian time, is of great significance, the determination of this fact having resulted from laborious research by Denckmann. A knowledge of the course of these subsidences becomes therefore of prime importance when prospecting for, or following such siderite lodes.

Most of these lodes are steep, dipping from  $60^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ , and they usually cross the bedding of the country at an acute angle. Concerning their persistence in depth, it appears that here also the statement holds good that lodes of considerable length along the strike have also considerable extent in depth, though throughout that extent payable and unpayable portions alternate. Along the strike the lodes generally follow an inclined direction in depth, that is to say, they have a distinct pitch. This pitch as a rule, and as illustrated in Fig. 359, *D*, follows the line of intersection between the lode plane and the plane of bedding.

For the greater part these lodes are the fillings of simple fissures, though, as illustrated in Fig. 359, *B*, parallel lodes and branch veins also occur, and the immediate country-rock may be ramified by numerous veins and stringers of siderite and quartz. In general the lode-filling appears to be intergrown with the country-rock, and only exceptionally are ore and rock separated by clayey material. Rock inclusions, in contradistinction to what is the case with the lead-zinc lodes, are seldom seen in iron lodes; when occurring, they are either scattered throughout the mass or, as may often be observed, collected particularly in the neighbourhood of the walls, in which case not infrequently the lode material gradually merges into country.

The lode width in Siegerland is remarkably great, being in many cases 5-10 m. and sometimes even 20 metres. In places, as in the Petersbach mine near Eichelhardt, the St. Andreas near Bitzen, and the Neue Haardt near Weidenau, it varies remarkably.

The occurrence of irregular ore-bodies, such as the Stahlbergstock at Müsen, illustrated in Figs. 9 and 359, *A*, necessitates great caution when speculating as to the width in depth. Decrease in width may occur either by the approach of the walls to each other, or by the splitting of the lode into branches which quickly die out. Sometimes, on the other hand, the width may increase, especially where the lode makes a sharp bend,



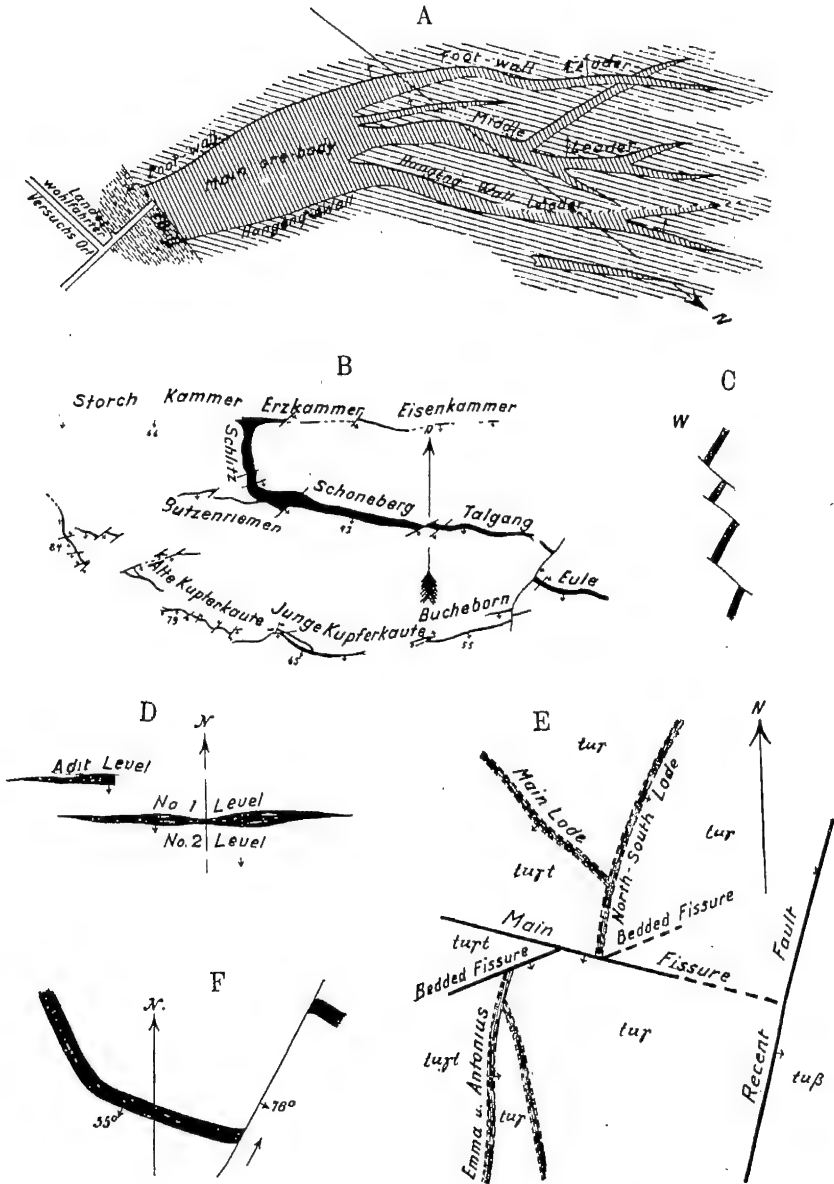


FIG. 359.—Features of the Siegerland iron lodes.

A, the Stahlberg deposit near Müsen at the adit level (Nüggerath); B, lodes in the Storch and Schöneberg mines at the adit level (Bornhardt); C, transverse section representing the shallow faults, Glücksbrunnen mine near Niederfischbach (Bornhardt); D, displacement of a lode in plan (Bornhardt); E, diagram illustrating the Kuhlberg series near Welschenest; *tur*=Gedinnien; *tuy*=Lower Siegen beds; *tus*=Birkelbach beds (Denckmann); F, slides (Geschlebe) at the south end of the Thomas lode in the Kuhlberg mine (Bornhardt).

cases of this having occurred at the Alte Lurzenbach, Neue Haardt, and St. Andreas mines. A dependence of the width upon the nature of the country-rock has been noticed in so far that lodes in medium hard or compact rock are the widest, while in the more compact and in the softer slaty rocks they are smaller. The lead-zinc lodes on the whole are narrower than the siderite lodes, solid ore-bodies of large size being seldom seen; payable masses of large width are more often made up of country-rock traversed by numerous ramifying veins.

The country-rock along the siderite lodes has either suffered no alteration at all or but very little, though the occurrence in it of siderite replacing quartzose material may often be observed. With the specularite- and hæmatite lodes, on the other hand, pronounced decomposition of the country-rock accompanied by bleaching, is common so long as the ore continues, and accordingly ore-deposition and the decomposition of the rock must be genetically connected. With the lead-zinc lodes there is likewise considerable decomposition, though bleaching of the country-rock is less frequent.

Along the lodes the occurrence of lustrous black slate pressed into lenses with numerous polished surfaces, is interesting. The black colour, which was formerly ascribed to anthracite or graphite, is in reality due to amorphous carbon, a sample of such slate investigated by Pufahl having shown the presence of 1.3 per cent of that element.

As illustrated in Fig. 359, disturbances are common. These may be classed as follows:

1. Bends, folds, and kinks, in relation to which it is not easy to determine whether they are original, or were subsequently formed.

2. Elongations and flattenings connected with a turning or twisting of the lode, these occurring more frequently with the smaller lodes. Such were caused by movements of the country-rock along planes running obliquely to the lode plane, or cutting directly across it.

3. Tectonic fissures, which are numerous and of the following different natures:

- (a) Normal faults, where, as illustrated in Fig. 359, *E*, the country-rock in the hanging-wall has subsided.

- (b) Very flat shallow faults generally inclined upwards towards the north, and along which the hanging-wall has been normally or inclinedly thrust upwards, as illustrated in Fig. 359, *C*.

- (c) The so-called *Geschiebe* or slides, these being horizontal displacements along planes at the most 20°–30° from the vertical, as illustrated in Figs. 45 and 359, *F*.

Lode deflections, such as resulted from obstacles in the path of deposition already existing at the time of the lode's formation, are in

Siegerland of little importance. Most of the disturbances formerly considered as belonging to this class have since been proved to be younger than the lodes.

In regard to age, according to Denckmann the various disturbances may be divided into two groups, an older and a younger. To the former belong the lode fissures, which are Middle Devonian. Those produced by the post-Culm folding are likewise of great age; they include the lateral displacements and certainly also the shallow faults; they are moreover contemporaneous with the overthrust of the Lower Devonian over the Middle Devonian in the Lenne slate area.

To the younger post-Palæozoic disturbances belong the east-south-east to south-south-east fissures, the east-west, and the north-north-east to north-east fissures, of which three groups the last has had greatest influence upon the present structure of Siegerland.

*The Lode-Filling.*—With the iron lodes siderite forms the preponderating mass of the filling, the whole mass sometimes consisting of this mineral. The structure is irregularly coarse- or fine-grained, and only occasionally in any sense banded or crusted. Fragments of country-rock are common, though lodes with few or no such inclusions are characteristic of the district. The gangue consists of quartz, any carbonates present representing a more recent deposition in crevices; barite and fluorite do not occur.

Among the primary minerals, pyrite and chalcopyrite are the most important; sphalerite and galena are more uncommon, being in fact unknown in many of the deposits; while tetrahedrite, chalcocite, bornite, cobaltite, linnæite, nickel-stibnite, gersdorffite, millerite, boulangerite, bournonite, stibnite, and marcasite, are present in places.

In the oxidation zone occur limonite, lepidocrocite, göthite, pyrolusite, manganite, psilomelane, wad, and, very rarely, rhodochrosite and malachite. In the amorphous gelatinous iron resulting from weathering, veins of more recent crystalline content are found.

With the lead- and zinc lodes the filling likewise consists chiefly of siderite or quartz and rock inclusions, galena and sphalerite being in smaller amount. In many lodes the sphalerite greatly exceeds the galena; occasionally however it only appears in depth, when it represents a deeper primary zone. Barite, calcite, and other carbonates, as well as pyrite and chalcopyrite, are more uncommon.

These lodes may be described under two types, namely, those with preponderating siderite and quartz, and those consisting chiefly of fragments of country-rock, these two types being connected by gradations. With most lodes galena and sphalerite represent younger ores formed by the metasomatic replacement of siderite and quartz. In depth these lodes

often become poor, passing over to iron- or quartz lodes, cases of this being known at the Lohmannsfeld mine at Altenseelbach, Peterszeche at Burbach, Wildberg at Wildberger Hütte, Bliessenbach at Engelskirchen, etc. In other cases the lead and zinc have continued to greater depth, sometimes to as much as 400 m. or more, the Viktoria mine at Littfeld being 380 m., and the Wildermann-Stahlberg at Müsen 424 m. deep.

In the oxidation zone, in addition to the oxidized iron- and manganese minerals, occur the oxides, carbonates, sulphates, and other combinations of those other metals which in the primary zone are associated with sulphur. Below the oxidation zone a cementation or enriched zone, distinguished by containing good copper ore, often occurs.

The copper lodes in their upper portions contain chalcopyrite chiefly, and chalcocite subordinately. As these in depth give place to siderite containing disseminated chalcopyrite, this cupriferous upper zone may be regarded as a cementation zone.

In addition to these copper lodes associated with iron lodes, there are around Nieder-Dreisbach, on both sides of the Lower Daade valley, others which are independent. These carry chalcopyrite, vuggy quartz, and dolomite, and are younger than the iron- and lead-zinc lodes across which with well-defined walls they often cut. With these lodes also, the cementation zone is the more cupriferous. The only deposit of this kind now being worked is that at the Danielszug mine at Wipperfürth.

The cobalt lodes contain chiefly very fine-grained cobaltite. This mineral occurs chiefly in the upper levels, where its occurrence may be regarded as a primary depth-zone of the siderite lodes. It rarely occurs in solid masses but rather as a cloudy impregnation throughout younger quartz.

Finally, to complete the description, the quartz lodes must be mentioned. These may be older, in which case they approach the siderite lodes in age, having to a great extent resulted from these by metasomatism; or they may be considerably younger, in which case they are often characterized by carrying copper.

Bornhardt divided the fissure-fillings of Siegerland according to their genesis and age and beginning from the oldest, into :

1. Siderite filling.
2. Main quartz filling.
3. Lead and zinc filling.
4. Older copper filling.
5. Younger copper filling.
6. Cobalt filling.

Since the minerals occurring in the Siegerland lodes may, in consequence of subsequent metasomatic replacement, be of varied age, several of these fillings may be represented in one and the same lode. In this respect this grouping by Bornhardt marks a distinct step in advance of the lode subdivisions of earlier authorities.

The siderite filling took place in Middle Devonian time. To it belong, in addition, the primary pyrite scattered throughout the mass; a small portion of the quartz, as far as this is primary; and some uncommon minerals. The bulk of the quartz, chalcopyrite, and galena, the sphalerite and the cobalt minerals, on the other hand, were subsequently introduced and belong therefore to younger fillings. The main quartz filling, to which the silicification of many of the siderite lodes must be ascribed, is however also probably of Devonian age. Such silicated solutions used not only the older siderite lodes as channels but also any fissures unoccupied by ore, pure quartz lodes thereby arising.

The geological age of the lead-zinc filling cannot be determined with certainty. Without exception however, it may be said that the galena is younger than the sphalerite, so that the lead-zinc filling might be subdivided into two generations. Galena and sphalerite have not only replaced siderite but in many cases quartz also. Lodes therefore formed at the siderite deposition may have been changed to quartz lodes, and these again to lead-zinc lodes. The older copper filling took place within the lodes of the three earlier fillings. Its principal minerals, chalcopyrite and tetrahedrite, are replacements, particularly of siderite and quartz. The younger copper filling is remarkable in that it forms independent lodes which cross those of the other fillings, occasionally with well-defined walls. We consider that the independence of the older copper deposition is doubtful since it may well be explained by the action of cementation processes upon the low copper content in the siderite or other lodes.

The cobalt filling is certainly younger than the siderite- and main quartz filling, though its relation to the others has not yet been determined. The cobaltite occurs as an impregnation, seldom in siderite but more often in the main quartz and in slaty country-rock. Being found chiefly in the upper levels, Bornhardt was of opinion that its presence was the result of secondary concentration processes.

We consider it would be of great interest to determine the relation between the cobalt- and copper fillings. At Dobschau, the siderite district in the Carpathians which so greatly resembles Siegerland, the copper- and cobalt minerals form well-defined depth-zones, the copper zone being higher than that of the cobalt.

The nickel minerals in their occurrence at Siegerland differ, according

to Bornhardt, from those of cobalt, in that they are not concentrated in the upper levels but occur as mineralogical curiosities impregnated in siderite at various horizons and in various districts. Nickel-stibnite and gersdorffite have in this connection shown themselves to be contemporaneous with the siderite. The formulation of an independent nickel filling is not therefore possible. In the relation of its cobalt- and nickel minerals Siegerland differs not immaterially from the other sulph-arsenide districts containing nickel and cobalt, where these two metals are so disposed that no sharp line between their occurrence may be drawn. Limonite, specularite, and hæmatite, represent secondary alteration products of the siderite, at the surface.

Concerning structure, the siderite exhibits simple granular structure, net structure, and porphyritic or irregular structure, while ordinary and concentric crusted structures are often seen.

The determination of the age-relation of the Siegerland siderite lodes to the eruptives which cross them, is of great interest. Not only is it the case that in many places the siderite under the influence, or by the action of the Tertiary basalt has been changed to magnetite, but, as in the Glaskopf mine at Biersdorf, the late Devonian diabase has had the same effect. On the other hand, no contact effects of the Lower Devonian porphyry are known.

The alteration of the siderite to limonite, that is, the formation of gossan, has in different lodes taken place to very different depths. Cases occur on the one hand where the siderite is found close under the surface, and on the other where the limonite extends considerably below the valley level. In explanation of these differences, not only must the local tectonics be considered but also the variable action of erosion from place to place.

The alteration of siderite to specularite and hæmatite is of particular interest. According to Bornhardt this alteration was direct and took place in water-filled cavities by reagents which arrived there from surface. In this connection he endorses the view of Hornung, according to which, concentrated saline solutions formed on surface during periods of great dryness, in consequence of their high specific gravity, sank along fractures or crevices where, by virtue of contained atmospheric oxygen, they exerted an oxidizing effect. Such saline solutions would for instance form upon the upper Rotliegendes. Krusch, on the contrary, considers the assumption of gelatinous solutions first put forward by Wölbling as being more probable.<sup>1</sup>

Pyrite occurs in the Siegerland lodes both within the ordinary filling as well as in separate veins. Like the other sulphides it appears to prefer the

<sup>1</sup> Bornhardt, *Rotspat und Eisenoxyd*, p. 476.

crushed or pinched parts of the lode, or those where inclusions of country-rock are numerous. It occurs generally in granules bounded by crystal faces, such granules being either aggregated loosely or in compact masses. The pyrite has generally resisted the alteration which has changed the siderite to quartz or chalcopyrite, so that it is found enveloped in these minerals. On the other hand, however, it is seldom seen in sphalerite or galena. Especially fine crystals of pyrite are found in the Heinrichsseggen mine.

The varying composition of siderite as it occurs in the ore-deposits of this region may be gathered from the analyses given in the tabulated statement on page 804, while on an average this ore contains the following percentages of the more important constituents :

Iron . . . . .	37.78 per cent.
Manganese . . . . .	7.16 "
Lime . . . . .	0.19 "
Magnesia . . . . .	2.18 "

The phosphorus content is low, generally amounting to 0.001–0.3 per cent. The copper content fluctuates between traces and 0.6 per cent, and on an average may be taken to be 0.15 per cent. Roasted siderite contains 45.4–51.4 per cent of iron, 6.4–11.2 per cent of manganese, 0.10–0.64 per cent of copper, and 6.38–18.39 per cent of insoluble residue, or on an average :

Iron . . . . .	48.22 per cent.
Manganese . . . . .	9.30 "
Copper . . . . .	0.22 "
Insoluble Residue . . . . .	12.35 "

The importance of iron mining in Siegerland may be gathered from the following brief statement. The industry has been important since the middle of last century. Its development has greatly depended upon the advances in iron metallurgy. The importation of high-grade foreign ores into Germany, which began in the 'sixties, affected it but little, owing to the favourable composition of the siderite. Ten years later, however, the discovery of the Thomas process and the wonderful development of the minette deposits consequent thereupon, had an effect all the more distressing because of the absence of distress hitherto. Prices fell and the mines fell into sore straits. The first distress-tariff was granted in 1886, after which in 1902 followed further favours, till finally in 1911, as the measure of greatest relief, the right to transport the ore to the Upper Silesian furnaces was granted.

Production has been as follows : in 1875 about 720,000 tons ; 1880 about 1,100,000 tons ; 1885 about 1,160,000 tons ; 1890 about 1,500,000 tons ; 1895 about 1,666,000 tons ; 1900 about 1,800,000 tons ; 1905 about

PERCENTAGE ANALYSES OF RAW SIDERITE.

No.	Name of Mine.	FeO.	MnO.	CaO.	MgO.	CO <sub>2</sub> .	Insoluble Residue.	Fe.	Mn.	Fe + Mn.	Authority.
<i>Mining District Müsen</i>											
8	Glanzenberg . . . .	43.23	7.69	1.38	5.66	38.26	2.42	33.04	5.96	39.60	Dr. Schwarz, Kgl. Berg- akademie, Berlin
*9	Kuhlenberg Series . .	45.10	8.74	1.68	3.78	...	(9.52)	35.08	6.77	41.85	Management of Mine; average of 5 analyses
10a	Stahlberg, old ore-body .	47.03	10.61	0.51	3.24	39.27	...	36.68	8.22	44.90	Schnabel
10b	Stahlberg, old ore-body .	44.79	10.53	0.75	2.74	...	1.08	35.95	8.16	44.11	Fresenius
*10c	Stahlberg, new ore-body .	44.72	9.43	1.66	2.94	...	(8.76)	37.11	7.25	44.36	Management of Mine
<i>Mining District Stegen</i>											
11	Häuslingstiefe . . . .	50.37	8.30	0.25	2.15	38.48	0.45	39.20	6.42	45.62	Schnabel
12	Junge Kessel mine . .	50.72	7.64	0.40	1.48	38.90	0.48	39.40	5.90	45.30	} Karsten
13	Kirschenbaum . . . .	47.20	8.34	0.63	3.75	38.85	0.95	36.70	6.40	43.10	
14	Kammer und Storch . .	48.69	9.38	...	0.93	36.56	4.44	39.76	7.63	47.39	} Schnabel
15	Alte Thalbach . . . .	48.79	9.66	0.36	1.25	37.43	2.51	37.95	7.48	45.43	
<i>Mining District Burbach</i>											
*16	Pfannenberger Einigkeit .	50.56	9.04	0.74	0.88	...	(8.74)	39.34	7.01	46.35	Heufelder
18	Peterszeche . . . .	49.62	9.47	1.10	1.29	38.37	...	38.60	7.28	45.88	Management of Mine
<i>Mining District Daaden- Kirchen</i>											
20	Stahlert . . . .	48.86	8.19	0.32	2.34	37.74	2.54	38.00	6.35	44.35	Schnabel
<i>Mining District Wied</i>											
26	Eisenhardt . . . .	40.37	8.00	0.72	3.20	37.10	0.11	38.40	6.20	44.60	Description by Hamm
27	St. Andreas . . . .	46.68	9.87	0.35	3.91	39.19	...	36.31	7.65	43.96	Schnabel
29	Petersbach . . . .	49.63	7.36	...	2.50	38.20	1.70	38.60	5.70	44.30	Description by Hamm
31	Girmscheid . . . .	46.57	9.55	1.10	2.55	...	0.50	36.22	7.40	43.60	} Management of Mines
32	Louise . . . .	49.54	9.98	0.60	...	38.32	0.32	38.51	7.73	46.24	
33	Georg . . . .	49.86	8.60	0.71	1.72	...	0.42	38.75	6.67	45.42	
34	Lammerichskaule . .	48.91	8.66	0.32	1.94	37.62	1.14	37.84	6.71	44.55	

\* In these analyses where the residue amounted to more than 5 per cent the percentages were calculated as though no residue were contained, in order to obtain figures more comparable with the others. In these cases the residue percentage is given in brackets.



1,940,000 tons; and 1907 about 2,360,000 tons. In 1909, according to official figures, the production amounted to 2,075,321 tons containing 34.9 per cent of iron; and in 1910 to 2,281,000 tons containing 35.1 per cent.

## THE SIDERITE LODES OF ZIPS-GÖMÖR IN THE HUNGARIAN ERZGEBIRGE

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This district geologically and stratigraphically constitutes in itself a separate section of the West Carpathians, in which the following sequence of beds is represented:

West Carpathians	Northern Belt	Trias . . . . .	{ Dolomitic limestone Werfen Beds		
		Permian ? . . . .	{ Reddish sandstone Quartz conglomerate		
		Carboniferous . . . .	{ Conglomerate, Grauwacke Red and green lustrous slate		
			{ Porphyroid schist Green schist, Greenstone	{ Eruptive- metamorphic Clastic- metamorphic	
	Mountain Core	Ore-bearing series . . . .	{ Coloured slate		
		Devonian ? . . . .			
		Metamorphic quartzite	{ Relation to ore-bearing series uncertain		
		Crystalline limestone			
		Hornblende-chlorite schist			
	Southern Belt	Trias.			

The country-rock of the lodes consists of Devonian schists, quartzites,

and foliated eruptives, distributed in a series of zones among which the following from hanging-wall to foot-wall are the most noticeable :

1. Sericitic, graphitic, and phyllitic schists.
2. Chloritic and quartzitic schists, and clay-slates.
3. Micaceous schists.
4. Green schists or foliated diorite.

The schist zones, striking east-west, enclose a large number of the siderite deposits, these being chiefly in the form of bedded lodes which likewise strike east-west. In the neighbourhood of the lodes the so-called green schists are altered to a compact rock known as greenstone, which no longer retains any schistose structure. The Carboniferous beds occurring in the hanging-wall unconformably to these schists, are likewise petrographically of very varied composition, conglomerates, clay-slates, and arenaceous slates being the most frequent. At the contact between the Devonian and the Carboniferous the Kotterbach and Bindt deposits occur. The later formations, the Permian and the Trias, are not concerned in the question of these ore-deposits.

Among the eruptive rocks, diorite and serpentine, in irregular bosses, are particularly important. The porphyroid schist intercalated between the other schists likewise consists of eruptive material. Most of the lodes are found within an area 70 km. long and 30–40 km. wide, which, consisting of green schists, greenstone, and metamorphic rocks, extends from Dobschau parallel to the northern border of the Erzgebirge, to the neighbourhood of Kaschau. To the west these rocks are bounded by the Kohut granite massive, while to the east they become impoverished in the neighbourhood of Kaschau. Around the boundaries of this metalliferous region the later sediments occur.

The lodes may be divided into several groups, of which the first includes the occurrences at Zsakarocz, Krompach, Kotterbach, Bindt, and Rostoken. The second group, embracing the Zips lodes, occurs around Göllnitz, Prakendorf, Helczmanocz, Einsiedel, and Slowinka, in a district 40 km. long and 15 km. wide.

In the whole circumstances of their occurrence, except that they are bedded lodes, these lodes resemble those of Siegerland. Their lode character however is indicated by numerous junctions, definite walls, small cross veins, and large enclosed fragments of country-rock. In greater part they strike east-west and dip 60°–80° to the south. They have been affected by the numerous disturbances to which the beds in which they occur have been subjected, so that faults are common, these often producing such a dismemberment of the deposit that the underground workings constitute a regular maze.

The filling consists chiefly of siderite, quartz, calcite, and barite; while sulphides, such as tetrahedrite, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, and arsenopyrite, are more uncommon. Pyrite occurs both in the lode and in the country-rock. The lode width varies considerably; it is however seldom more than a few metres, widths of 30 m. being only attained when thicknesses of country-rock are included. The structure is often granular. The siderite is sometimes coarse- and sometimes fine-grained, while its colour varies between typical pea-yellow and almost white; it usually contains 36–38 per cent of iron, and near the surface is altered to limonite

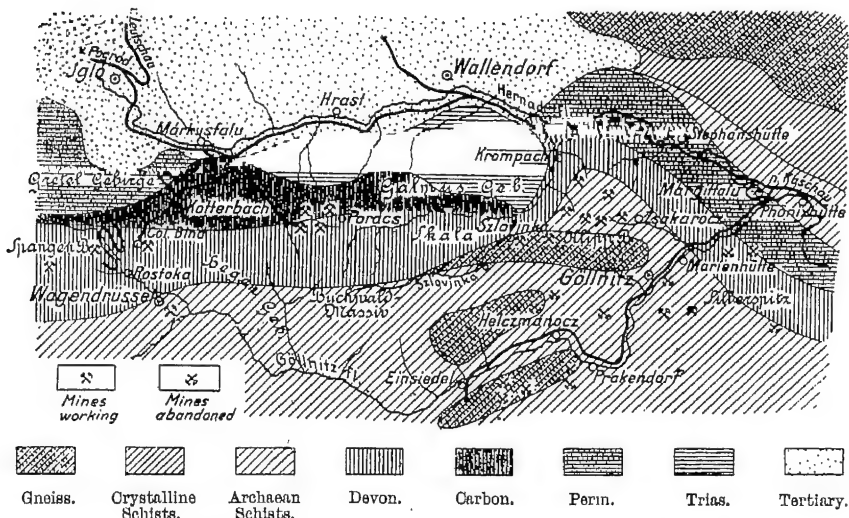


FIG. 360.—General map of the siderite deposits of the Upper Hungarian Erzgebirge.  
Scale, 1 : 400,000.

or iron-ochre. Since in this oxidation zone cinnabar is often met, it is probable that quicksilver-tetrahedrite occurs in greater depth. Primary depth-zones are observed in so far that while in depth the carbonates increase, the sulphides, on the other hand, decrease.

In regard to copper, it is noteworthy that a secondary enrichment has often taken place, this, as at Dobschau, taking the form of tetrahedrite. Cobalt and nickel, which in Siegerland were fairly regularly distributed throughout, are, in spite of the resemblance between the lodes of the two districts, only found in this district at Dobschau, where they constitute a primary depth-zone below the copper.

The composition of the siderite of this district may be gathered from the following analysis from Rostoken :

Iron . . . . .	34.00-38.00 per cent.
Manganese . . . . .	1.50 "
Copper . . . . .	0.13-0.15 "
Calcite . . . . .	1.00 "
Alumina . . . . .	0.50 "
Insoluble residue . . . . .	4-9.00 "
Loss on ignition . . . . .	30.00 "

The composition of the limonite may be seen from the following analyses from Göllnitz :

	Hilfe-Gottes Mine.	Ottokar Mine.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Moisture . . . . .	1.98	5.36
Iron, moist ore . . . . .	51.07	45.67
„ dry ore . . . . .	52.08	48.26
„ roasted ore . . . . .	57.01	53.11
Loss on ignition . . . . .	9.60	9.14
Gangue . . . . .	11.69	16.44
Manganese . . . . .	2.06	2.18
Phosphorus . . . . .	0.02	0.05
Sulphur . . . . .	0.04	0.08
Copper . . . . .	0.33	0.44
Antimony . . . . .	0.16	0.01
Arsenic . . . . .	0.026	...
Lead . . . . .	...	...
Barium . . . . .	...	0.46

In regard to genesis also, there exists a striking agreement between these lodes and those of Siegerland. The lodes were formed in early Devonian time by solutions which without doubt were associated with eruptive rocks. By many authors the presence of tourmaline—which increases in amount from Kotterbach through Bindt to Rostoken, while those lodes lying to the east of Göllnitz contain practically none—is regarded as important in regard to the question of genesis. According to present-day knowledge however, tourmaline has a wide distribution in lodes and is no longer considered one of the less common minerals. In addition, the tourmaline in this district occurs indifferently in the ordinary and in the bedded lodes. Bartels has observed that the quartz and tourmaline are older minerals, while all the others belong to a younger generation. The tourmaline is intergrown with the quartz in the most intimate manner, its crystals sometimes protruding from the quartz into the siderite. In addition, drusy cavities lined with tourmaline occur in quartz only and not in siderite.

According to observations made by Krusch at Dobschau, there is, in addition to this older quartz, a younger generation of that mineral, which replaces siderite. The presence of this is doubtless due to a re-opening of the fissure, in which also the conditions here would further resemble those in Siegerland. According to Krusch, in this district also, the main portion

of the sulphides is younger than the siderite. Although it is assumed by earlier authorities that the lodes are genetically associated with the known occurrence of greenstone in the district, there is no evidence as to what minerals are contemporaneous with this greenstone, though in the face of an apparent re-opening and re-mineralization all cannot be contemporaneous.

The Upper Hungarian iron ores when roasted are used in great quantities in Upper Silesia. They are poor in manganese, containing but 1·5–2 per cent; when raw they contain 0·01–0·2 per cent of phosphorus and 0·4–1 per cent of copper, this amount of copper rendering them a little difficult to treat.

Of the total iron ore production of Hungary, which amounts to about 1,700,000 tons, Upper Hungary is responsible for 60–70 per cent, or about 1,000,000 tons. The importance of the individual mines may be gathered from the table on page 810.

In addition to these economically important siderite districts there are many similar occurrences which to-day are unimportant. Among these are those at Lobenstein and Leubetha near Oelsnitz and Röttis respectively. These deposits, which occur in Palæozoic beds, carry siderite and, in part, some copper and nickel.

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In the Salzburg hills not far from the well-known copper deposit of Mitterberg near Bischofshofen, a large number of siderite lodes were formerly worked, especially in the Middle Ages. Here also the lodes traverse Palæozoic beds and carry some copper. The passage from siderite deposits to copper deposits carrying siderite is so gradual that it cannot always be said with certainty whether any particular old working was worked for siderite and stopped because of the increase in copper, or whether copper was the metal sought and the work stopped because in depth the proportion of siderite increased.<sup>1</sup>

#### HAEMATITE LODES

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<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 905.

## ORE-DEPOSITS

THE MOST IMPORTANT IRON PRODUCERS OF THE UPPER HUNGARIAN ERZGEBIRGE WITH PRODUCTION FROM 1905.

No.	Owner.	Position of Mine.	Size of Mining Area in Sq. m.	Production in Tons.	Value.
1.	Upper Silesian Eisenbahnbedarfs Railway Plant Company in Friedenshütte-Morgenroth near Beuthen, Upper Silesia	Rostoken * and Zawadka	7,740,027	12,549 raw ore 48,759 roasted ore 1,046 manganese ore	£2,477 19 2 £21,511 3 4 £374 19 2
2.	Witkowitz Mining and Ironworks Company in Witkowitz, Mähren	Kotterbach *	2,890,291	Raw production 129,197 6,258 raw ore 88,178 roasted ore 3,526 roasted tetrahedrite 71 barite 45 quicksilver ore	... ... ... ... ...
3.	Austrian Mining and Smelting Company, Teschen	Zacarcos *	7,180,421	144,611 raw ore 114,598 roasted ore	£31,934 12 6 £53,192 10 10
4.	Upper Silesian Mining and Smelting Company in Gleiwitz, Upper Silesia	Bindt * Graedt. * Mesený *	3,925,126 ...	38,665 ...	£8,860 16 8 ...
5.	Hernádtal Hungarian Iron Company under technical and administrative direction of the Rima-Murany-Sárgo-Tarjan Iron Company	1. Luzeyabánya † 2. Slovinka * 3. Vashegy † 4. Rákos † 5. Rozsnyó † 6. Krompach *	... ... ... ... ... ...	76,255 raw ore 55,000 " 89,480 " 55,436 " 51,031 " 37,400 "	... ... ... ... ... ...

\* = Komitat Zips.

† = Komitat Gümör.

des obern Erzgebirges des Voigtlandes, 1856.—H. V. OPPÉ. 'Die Zinn- und Eisenerzgänge der Eibenstocker Granitpartie und deren Umgebung,' Cottas Gangstudien, 1854, II.

Although hæmatite lodes occur in many districts it is in but few places that they constitute payable deposits.

The Knollen mine at Lauterberg in the Harz, where for a time a hæmatite lode associated with copper- and barite lodes was worked, has a certain reputation. According to Ermisch the country-rock at that mine consists of the supposedly Culm Tanne grauwaacke. The lode strikes east-south-east to south-east and dips 80° south-west. The width, which though on an average 1 m. may reach 4 metres, consists of country-rock and hæmatite, while barite and lithomarge are less common. The absence of sulphides and the rare occurrence of quartz are characteristic features of this lode. The hæmatite occurs chiefly in the form of kidney ore containing 96–99 per cent of ferric oxide, while the compact hæmatite occurring more particularly in the neighbourhood of the outcrop, contains 91 per cent of that oxide.

At St. Andreasberg in the Harz the lode-filling of the different lodes varies according to whether the lode occurs between, or to the north or south of the two boundary faults.<sup>1</sup> While the lodes within the wedge of ground pointing westwards contain silver chiefly, those outside are distinguished by containing hæmatite. According to H. Credner the most important iron deposits at St. Andreasberg occur with variable strike and width, either in the granite or at the contact of that rock with hornfels.

Other hæmatite lodes are known in the Saxon Vogtland, between Stenn to the south-west of Zwickau, and Christgrün. These, containing hæmatite and limonite, occur at the contact of diabase and clay-slate, or between limestone and decomposed Lower Silurian diabase. There are hæmatite lodes also in the Saxon Erzgebirge, in the neighbourhood of Schwarzenberg. The lodes there occur either within the granite or at the contact of granite and schist; those occurring at the contact have already been mentioned.<sup>2</sup> The occurrence of copper ore with some of these lodes is noteworthy, the lodes otherwise carrying compact fibrous hæmatite or kidney ore.

Finally, the following occurrences deserve mention: the hæmatite lodes at Johanngeorgenstadt, Platten, Schellerhau; the numerous small iron lodes at Suhl in the Thuringian Forest upon which the armament industry in that neighbourhood was started; and similar occurrences at Zorge in the Harz and at Gleissingerfels in the Fichtelgebirge.

It is of interest to note that there exists a relation between the hæmatite lodes and those of manganese afterwards to be described, in that these latter in depth often gradually merge into hæmatite lodes.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 688.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 352.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 851.

## THE METASOMATIC IRON DEPOSITS

As already stated more than once, lodes are closely related to metasomatic deposits. Deposits of this latter class are in the case of iron of special importance.

In addition, however, there are other deposits occupying an intermediate stage between the two, in which though the lode character may be apparent, metasomatism has already attained a certain importance. Such deposits are found for example at Toroczko in Transylvania where the lode fissure may still plainly be recognized and the deposit on the whole gives the impression of a lode-like occurrence, though along the fissure a portion of the limestone has been altered to ore. Apart from these intermediate occurrences there are other numerous well-defined metasomatic iron deposits which are distinctly bedded in character. Since with most metasomatic iron deposits it is a question of the relatively low-priced siderite—though this may be more or less completely altered to the more valuable limonite or hæmatite—there are not many districts where such deposits are worked. Payable deposits naturally occur more frequently in those countries where the means of communication are best developed. The formation of these deposits was fully discussed in the first volume. In form they differ from the analogous lead-zinc deposits in that the alteration of the limestone and dolomite—which in the great majority of cases is what takes place—is generally complete, and accordingly in many cases the shape of the deposit coincides with that of the original bed.

Not infrequently slate becomes thus altered to limonite, though experience shows that such occurrences have no economic importance; at shallow depths the deposit gives way to a ferruginous rock and this in turn to ordinary slate. This type of deposit is known as the Hunsrück type.

In the case of such deposits as have resulted from limestone and dolomite, when the alteration has been complete or secondary migration of the metals has taken place, the channels of access as well as the replacement fissures are difficult to recognize. When however the alteration is



not complete the intensity of the replacement is seen to diminish with distance from the fissure. Near the fissure iron ore is found, then ferruginous limestone or dolomite, and finally unaltered rock. The deposit has then as a rule the form of a lens, the greatest section of which is along the fissure, and the tapering ends farthest from the fissure.

The extent of the metasomatic iron deposits upon the surface as well as in depth is dependent upon the extension of the original rock and upon the solutions brought to that rock. The greater the volume of these latter in relation to the mass of the original rock, the more completely does the form of the deposit coincide with that of that rock. The ore-bodies accordingly are horizontal where the bedding is undisturbed, and folded to anticlines and synclines or disturbed by faults or overthrusts when the beds in which they lie have been so folded or disturbed. The depth to which a metasomatic iron deposit reaches depends therefore entirely upon the disturbed or undisturbed bedding of the original rock. The distribution of the ore in the deposit may be regular, as for instance at the Hüggel;<sup>1</sup> or it may be extremely irregular, as when the entire bedded complex is shattered and not all the limestone or dolomite has been altered. An irregular distribution may also arise when in the alteration of the limestone not only one mineral, such as siderite, was deposited, but at the same time a carbonate such as ankerite, or the equivalent calcium-iron carbonate. At those points where such occurred the deposit would be unpayable and the regularity of the deposit broken.

The principal minerals found in metasomatic iron deposits are siderite and limonite, at the formation of which calcium carbonate or calcium-magnesium carbonate became removed. Less frequently sulphides such as pyrite and chalcopyrite, formed at the same time, are present. The gangue consists chiefly of carbonates, most of which have a composition intermediate between that of the ore and the original rock. Should the limestone not be completely replaced by ore it remains as the gangue in which the ore is embedded.

The structure of the ore in these deposits is either crusted or irregular. At the boundaries of the deposit a pseudo-brecciated structure is often seen, where kernels of unaltered limestone occur between the fractures from which the alteration proceeded. The frequent occurrence of crusted structure has been the cause of divergence of opinion concerning the genesis of several occurrences, which by some are regarded as true sedimentary beds and by others as having been formed by metasomatism. With such crusted structure the general occurrence of cavities parallel to the crusts is remarkable, this being particularly noticeable for instance at the Hüggel.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 841.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 844.

The composition of the ore varies according as hæmatite, limonite, or siderite, are present. Careful determinations of the average content of the most important elements are available, among others, in respect to the Nassau hæmatites, where however, it must be conceded, true sedimentary occurrences exceed the metasomatic. Here during 1910 about 1,004,000 tons were produced containing on an average 40·9 per cent of iron, almost the whole of this tonnage being ready for smelting without further preparation. This average figure was rendered somewhat low by the inclusion of some partly altered material, which was valuable as ferruginous flux. The phosphorus content of these hæmatite ores is an important factor. Most of the above total, almost 800,000 tons in fact, contained 0·05–0·75 per cent of phosphorus; about 118,000 tons contained still less; while only a small proportion, some 900 tons, containing more than 1 per cent, belonged to the high phosphorus ores. Accordingly, in general the hæmatite of the metasomatic deposits belongs to the low phosphorus ores.

With regard to siderite, in Germany during 1910, including the Osnabrück district, the Schafberg, and the Hüggel, 261,461 tons containing 28·1 per cent of iron, were won, the whole of which could be smelted at once. In this ore the phosphorus content varied between 0 and 1 per cent, the larger portion containing less than 0·06 per cent.

The metasomatic limonite of Germany is derived from the Saxon-Thuringia, the Nassau-Oberhesse, the Taunus, and the Vogelsberg districts, wherein, although deposits of other genesis are worked, the bulk of the production comes from the deposits in question.

With these deposits the manganese content is an important factor, some of them actually yielding ore containing approximately 20 per cent of iron and 20 per cent of manganese. Such ore formerly, for want of fixity in classification, was sometimes classed with the iron ores and sometimes with the manganese ores. Now, however, the term iron-manganese ores has become generally accepted for them.

According to the manganese content the ore from these deposits may be divided into :

- (a) Limonite, with less than 12 per cent of manganese.
- (b) Iron-manganese ore, with 12–30 per cent of manganese.
- (c) Manganese ore, with more than 30 per cent of manganese.

These divisions naturally merge into one another. Only the first two are considered here, the last being described when dealing with manganese ores.<sup>1</sup> Of the total amount of these ores produced in Germany during 1910—this amount being approximately 2,900,000 tons—the greater proportion by far, namely 2,600,000 tons, belongs to the first

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, pp. 851, 863.

division containing less than 12 per cent of manganese; somewhat more than one quarter to the second; while less than 200 tons may be classed as manganese ore.

In determining the market value of these ores the manganese content plays an important part. Generally it may be assumed that 1.5 per cent of manganese becomes lost in smelting, while the remainder is allowed for at the rate of 2 per cent of iron for each per cent of manganese. The ore containing less than 12 per cent of manganese contains on an average 31.6 per cent of iron, while the iron-manganese ore contains 24 per cent of iron and 20 per cent of manganese, on an average.

The second important factor is the phosphorus content, which, like that of manganese, fluctuates considerably. Approximately 746,000 tons of the production in 1910 contained less than 0.05 per cent; about 863,000 tons contained 0.05–0.75 per cent; about 128,000 tons, 0.75–1 per cent; and about 896,000 tons, more than 1 per cent.

The metasomatic limonite deposits are particularly interesting because being of great geological age they have been subject to much subsequent disintegration and alteration. There are in consequence many deposits which, at different stages of exposure by mining operations, might be regarded as either metasomatic or fragmentary deposits. Such is for example the case with the Lindener Mark near Giessen and with many of the occurrences in the Bingerbrück limestone, in which cases Middle Devonian massive limestone was first changed to ore which in turn became disintegrated either by running water or by water circulating in fissures. With some deposits of this nature it cannot be determined whether the limestone was changed directly to limonite, or was first changed to siderite and then by subsequent oxidation to limonite.

Since these deposits are usually of little thickness the opportunity to display primary depth-zones is limited. Not all the limestone beds however are equally suited to this alteration, and in consequence, in a section normal to the bedding, ore often alternates with limestone. Even when the whole of the limestone has been altered it need not necessarily follow that all the component layers have been altered to siderite; some according to their character may have been altered to siderite, others to ankerite, etc.

The secondary depth-zones are particularly important. In those cases where the limestone was altered directly to limonite no opportunity for subsequent migration of the metal content existed; but where siderite was first formed such migration would be brought about near the surface by atmospheric agencies in the manner indicated when describing the siderite lodes,<sup>1</sup> and limonite would result.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 789.

In this weathering, as Krusch has pointed out, oxidation-metasomatism takes part.<sup>1</sup>

The meteoric waters, which dissolve the iron carbonate doubtless as bicarbonate, sink into the limestone which in the presence of oxygen they change to limonite. The migration of the iron therefore proceeds from above, downwards, so that the thickness of the deposit in the oxidation zone may be considerably greater than in the primary zone. Within a limited vertical measurement in the oxidation zone, by the processes of oxidation and the allied processes of oxidation-metasomatism, an amount of ore may be accumulated which formerly belonged to a much greater vertical extent—in greater part now eroded—of the primary deposit. When therefore one of these deposits appears at surface as a gossan, great care must be exercised in deducing from the chemical and dimensional properties of this gossan any estimates relative to possible content, width, nature, and quantity of ore, in depth.

Where the surface decomposition is incomplete, as for instance at Kamsdorf, its actual occurrence may be demonstrated. Siderite and limonite are then found together, the former when of metasomatic origin often having a different character from that which it has when occurring in lodes. It is finely crystalline and displays a certain scintillation, in consequence of which by the Kamsdorf miners it is aptly termed mica. At Bilbao, however, where also the existence of secondary oxidation is apparent, the siderite is as a rule coarsely crystalline. The passage of siderite to limonite may often be seen in hand specimens, consisting of a kernel of siderite representing the original ore, and an envelope of limonite.

Oxidation is not only apparent in its effects upon pure siderite, but also upon limestone which has only been partly replaced by siderite. When this occurs a limestone saturated with limonite is formed, which in many districts is appropriately known as iron-limestone.

Where small amounts of primary copper- and silver ores were deposited with the iron, a narrow cementation zone becomes formed below the gossan, wherein the copper and silver are concentrated, but not the iron.

For the reasons given when describing the siderite lodes,<sup>2</sup> payable metasomatic iron deposits are not numerous. In determining the question of payability fuel is often an important factor, since only where the roasting of the siderite to the oxide is possible can any considerable transport of the ore be considered.

In countries where wages are high these deposits cannot as a rule be worked. In Europe, on the other hand, large deposits of this genesis are worked at Bilbao on the north-east coast of Spain, and at Erzberg

<sup>1</sup> 'Primäre und metasomatische Prozesse auf Erzlagerstätten,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1910.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 786.

near Eisenerz in Styria; while smaller occurrences are worked in the Thuringian Forest, at the Hüggl in Westphalia, and at many other places.

The connection of these deposits with large fissure-systems through which the alterative solutions circulated, is invariable. Thus, the metasomatic iron deposits of the Stahlberg and the Mommel near Schmalkaden, are connected with the disturbed zone in the south of the Thuringian Forest; while the occurrences at Kamsdorf are in connection with the northern boundary fissure of that forest.

The size of these deposits varies. The deposits at Bilbao and that at Erzberg are of large dimension, while the occurrences in the Thuringian Forest and at the Hüggl are smaller. The metasomatic Devonian hæmatite in Nassau, which is partly of metasomatic origin, must be reckoned among those of medium size.

The output from some of these mines is variable because around the boundaries of the ore-body there are masses of poorer material which, though they contain too little iron to be regarded as ore, serve well as ferruginous flux. Some of this material however, in consequence of the irregularity of the ore-body, is often reckoned with the ore.

## ERZBERG NEAR EISENERZ, STYRIA

### LITERATURE

V. UHLICH. The Iron Ore Resources of the World, XI. Intern. Geol. Congress. Stockholm, 1910.—A. MILLER v. HAUFENFELS. 'Die steiermärkischen Bergbaue,' special extract from Ein treues Bild des Herzogtums Steiermark, p. 14. Vienna, 1859.—D. STUR. 'Vorkommen obersilurischer Petrefakten am Erzberg u.s.w.' Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1865, p. 267.—F. v. Hauer. 'Geologie der österr.-ungar. Monarchie, 1875, p. 223.—M. VAČEK. 'Über den geologischen Bau der Zentralalpen zwischen Enns und Mur,' Verhandl. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1886, p. 71; 'Skizze eines geologischen Profils durch den steierischen Erzberg,' Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst., 1900, p. 23.—M. VAČEK and E. SEDLACEK. 'Der steierische Erzberg,' Guide to IX. Intern. Geol. Congress. Vienna, 1903, V. p. 1.—F. CORNU and K. A. REDLICH. 'Notizen über einige Mineralvorkommen der Ostalpen,' Zentralbl. f. Min. Geol. und Petrogr., 1908, p. 277. Stuttgart, 1908.—K. A. REDLICH. 'Die Genesis der Pinolitmagnesite, Siderite und Ankerite der Ostalpen,' Tscherm. min. und petr. Mitt., 1907, Vol. XXVI. Parts 5 and 6.

In the hanging-wall portion of the large northern grauwacke belt which traverses the Austrian Alps in an east-west direction, numerous siderite deposits occur, the strike of which within northern Styria follows the line Liezen-Eisenerz-Neuberg. Of these deposits the most important is that known as the Styrian Erzberg, the greatest part of which belongs to the *Österreichische Montangesellschaft*. In the report made by Uhlich upon this company it is stated that the occurrences at Aigen, Admont, Krummau, Johnsbach, Radmer, Donnersalpe, Tullech, Glanzberg, Polster, Gollrad, Nideralpe, Neuberg, Bohnkogel, and Altenberg, belong

o the same belt. The description here will be limited to that of the Erzberg which at present is the only one working.

This occurrence lies isolated in a wide valley, the sides of which are

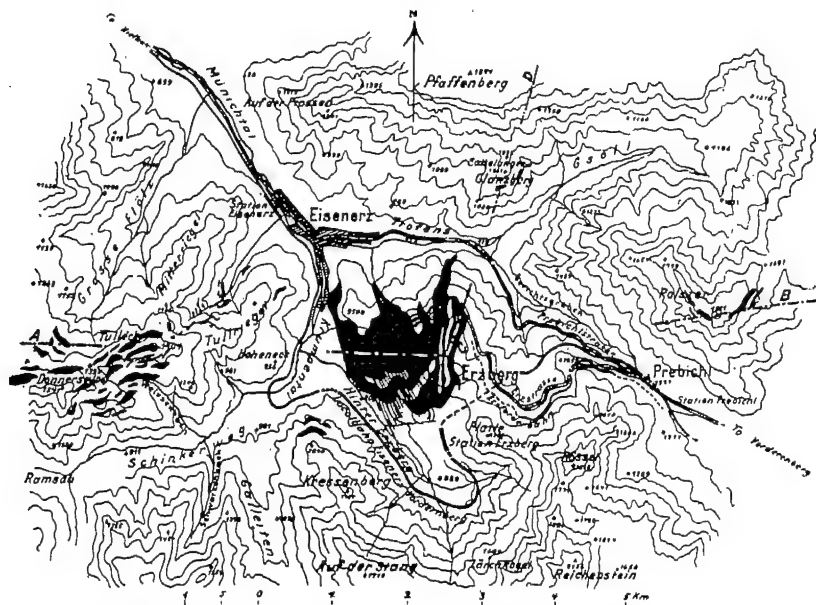


FIG. 361.—Situation plan of Erzberg near Eisenerz. The deposit is coloured black.

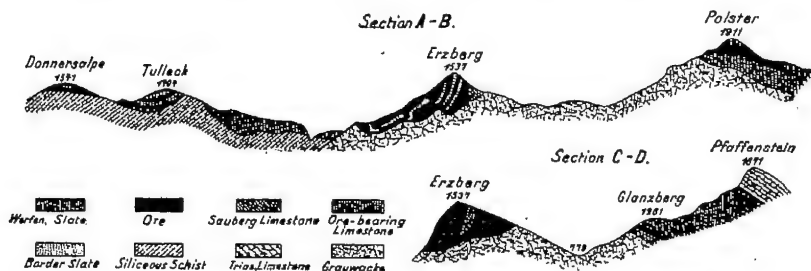


FIG. 362.—Sections of Erzberg near Eisenerz, along lines indicated in Fig. 361.

ormed by towering walls of limestone, while to the south it is connected with the Reichenstein massive by an anticline known as the Breite Platte.<sup>1</sup>

In the upper portion of the Erzberg, within a yellow and reddish limestone—the Sauberg or ore-bearing limestone—*Crinoids* are found, indicating that this limestone belongs to the Lower Devonian.

<sup>1</sup> Wide plateau.

The ore-bed, as indicated in Fig. 362, forms a syncline in the foot-wall grauwacke. The youngest bed in the hanging-wall is a red, blue, and greenish-grey slate, correlated with the Werfen slates. This bed is however only found on the eastern slope of the Erzberg, having elsewhere been eroded. The ore-bed comes right to surface, its dislocated, folded, and crushed material indicating the tremendous tectonic forces to which it has been subjected. The deposit, as already mentioned, occurs trough-like



FIG. 363.—Erzberg opencut at Eisenerz. *Iron Ore Resources of the World.*

in the foot-wall grauwacke, yet in consequence of plication it reaches a height of about 730 m. with a thickness of 160–200 metres. The ore-body however does not consist exclusively of ore; the huge ore-bearing complex consists of an alternation of ore with ankerite, limestone, and slate. The extension along the strike in the Eisenerz portion is 680 m., and in the Vorderberg portion 370 metres.

Mining at Erzberg is an old industry. The ore-body has been attacked both from the surface as well as from underground workings. The large opencut worked to-day has fifty benches, some of which are illustrated in Fig. 363.

The siderite of this deposit is almost free from sulphides; pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, tetrahedrite, and cinnabar, are rare occurrences.

The ore as mined contains 38–40 per cent of iron, and the roasted ore up to 52 per cent. An average sample of this latter would give 44·6 per cent of iron, 2·12 per cent of manganese, 0·03 per cent of phosphorus, and 0·04 per cent of sulphur. The ankerite though at present not payable may in the future be worth consideration by the smelter, since on an average it contains 15–25 per cent of iron.

The genesis of this deposit has not yet been satisfactorily settled, in fact by some authorities quite different views are held. Bergeat, following the view first suggested by Schouppe<sup>1</sup> that it was a sedimentary deposit, describes it among the ore-beds, though he also reckoned with the possibility of a metasomatic origin. Beck<sup>2</sup> describes it among the epigenetic masses, inclining therefore, as did Redlich and many others before, to the assumption of a metasomatic replacement of limestone by siderite. Redlich was the first to remark the close relationship between the ankerite-iron occurrences of the East Alps and the pinolite-magnesite of Veitsch, this latter also representing replacement of limestone. He advocated the possibility of a close relationship between the iron deposits and the sulphide lodes of the East Alps. He was of opinion that in determining the genesis of the Erzberg, due consideration should be given to the small amount of sulphides in the siderite of this deposit. According to the authors, most of the observed facts betoken a metasomatic origin.

The total production hitherto has been as follows: from 1701 to 1800 about 3·7 million tons; from 1801 to 1900 about 22·2 million; and from 1901 to 1911 about 15·1 million tons; so that including the amount produced before 1700, altogether about 42–43 million tons have been produced.<sup>3</sup> The present ore-reserves are estimated to be 170 million tons at Eisenerz, and 36 million tons at Vordernberg, making a total of 206 million tons. In 1910 the production was 1·7 million tons, and in 1911 about 1·8 million tons.

## THE HÜTTENBERG ERZBERG

### LITERATURE

M. V. LIPOLD. 'Bemerkungen über F. Münnichsdorfers Beschreibungen des Hüttenberger Erzberges,' *Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst.*, 1855, p. 643.—SCHAUENSTEIN. *Denkbuch des österreichischen Berg- und Hüttenw.*, 1873, p. 204, Vienna, Minister for Agriculture.—F. SEELAND. 'Der Hüttenberger Erzberg und seine nächste Umgebung,' *Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst.*, 1876, p. 49.—Die Eisenerze Österreichs und ihre Verhüttung, Minister for Agriculture, Paris Exhibition, 1878.—A. BRUNLECHNER. 'Die Form der Eisenerz-

<sup>1</sup> *Jahrb. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst.* V., 1854.

<sup>2</sup> *Erzlagerstättenlehre*, p. 226.

<sup>3</sup> *Stahl und Eisen*, 1912, I No. 8.



lagerstätten in Hüttenberg (Kärnten),’ *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1893, p. 301; Die Abstammung der Eisenerze und der Charakter ihrer Lagerstätten im nordöstlichen Kärnten, Carinthia, II., 1894, p. 47.—BRUNO BAUMGÄRTEL. ‘Der Erzberg bei Hüttenberg in Kärnten,’ *Jahrb. der k. k. geol. Reichsanst.*, 1902, Vol. LII. p. 219.—The Iron Ore Resources of the World, XI., *Intern. Geol. Congress*, Stockholm, 1910.

In eastern Carinthia, belts of limestone striking south-east occur in young gneiss and old mica-schist. They are known at St. Lambrecht

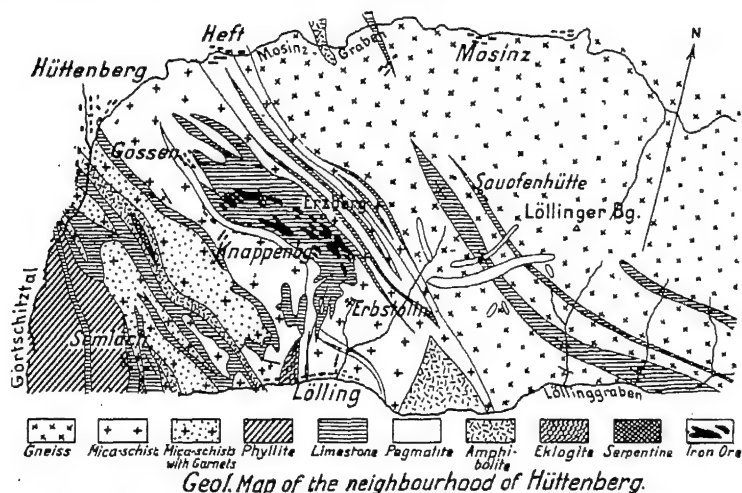


FIG. 364.—Geological map of the neighbourhood of Hüttenberg. Scale about 1 : 75,000. Baumgartel.

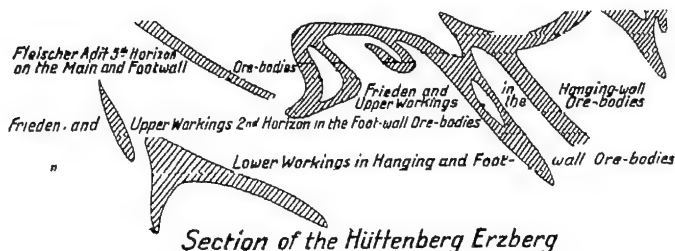


FIG. 365.—Section of the Hüttenberg Erzberg. Scale about 1 : 75,000. Baumgartel.

in Styria and at Friesach in Carinthia, at Waitschach, Hüttenberg, Lölling, Wölsch, Loben, Waldenstein, Teissene, etc. In this limestone, beds of siderite and limonite occur which have been worked for centuries at the mines, Geisberg, Zeltschach, Olsa, Waitschach, Zossen, and Hüttenberg. The most important deposit is that at the Hüttenberg Erzberg, illustrated in Figs. 364 and 365.

This metalliferous hill forms the end of a ridge which the north-south

chain of the Sau Alps throws off in a westerly direction from Hohewar through Walzofen, Löllinger Berg, and Sauofen to Erzberg. Upon this ridge occur the numerous workings of the districts, Knappenberg, Heft and Lölling.

The country here consists chiefly of schistose rocks—so-called gneisses—forming a flat south-east striking anticline. Upon these gneisses and with no sharp separation from them, lie mica-schist, phyllite, green schist and clay-slate. Intercalated in the gneiss as well as in the mica-schist and phyllite, occurs the limestone, which is usually light-coloured and granular, and carries mica, pyrite, and sometimes realgar and arsenopyrite while in places it merges into a garnet-diopside rock. A second group of intercalations is constituted by the tourmaline-bearing pegmatitic gneisses, some of which exhibit true dyke character. These are particularly numerous in the ore-bearing limestone found in the mica-schist.

The deposit when in unweathered schist consists of siderite, ankerite, pyrite, barite, and, more seldom, löllingite and metallic bismuth, while in the upper levels limonite, manganese ore, and the oxidized products of the sulphides, are found.

According to the extent to which this weathering has proceeded, blue ore, representing the greatest decomposition, may be separated from brown ore, kidney ore, and white ore, this last representing undecomposed siderite. Quartz, mica, pyrite, and barite, occur as impurities, the last-named being often associated with very pure siderite.

It was formerly thought that the deposit consisted of a number of disconnected and irregular lenses; later developments however have shown that the lenses are connected together, forming a continuous many membered mass which at times bulges out into hanging-wall and foot-wall or sends out veins into the country-rock. The passage from ore to rock is sometimes gradual, passing through the intermediate stage of ankerite or it is sudden and with only a clay-parting between. The dip is generally to the south-west, though cases of opposite tendency occur. The ore-bed is not always parallel to the limestone beds, but at times crosses them. Layers of limestone interbedded in the ore are common.

Irregularity of form being characteristic of metasomatic deposits, the question of the genesis of this deposit is more easily settled. It is generally agreed that it is a metasomatic deposit.

The iron content is 43–49 per cent; the amount of silica varies, though there is always sufficient to make the ore an acid ore. Ore-reserves of 860,000 tons developed, and 800,000 tons estimated, have been declared. The production in 1910 was 14,110 tons of siderite and 33,356 tons of limonite.

## IRON DEPOSITS IN THE CARBONIFEROUS LIMESTONE OF ENGLAND

## LITERATURE

W. W. SMYTH. 'The Iron Ores of Great Britain,' Memoirs, Geol. Survey, 1856, Part 1, p. 16.—J. A. PHILLIPS and HENRY LOUIS. A Treatise on Ore Deposits, 2nd Ed. London, 1896.—J. P. KENDALL. 'The Hæmatite Deposits of Whitehaven and Furness,' Trans. Manch. Geol. Soc., 1876, Vol. XIII. p. 231.

Most of these deposits are found in the Carboniferous Limestone region of the north of England, in Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, etc. At Alston they are associated with lead lodes which cut through the entire thickness of this limestone formation. These lodes occasionally are filled with limonite in the place of lead, as for instance in the productive lode at Rodderup Fell which is 5–6 m. wide, and in the Manor House lode from which large quantities of good limonite have been obtained. Such occurrences are of economic importance. On the northern shoulder of Cross Fell and in Weardale similar iron deposits outcrop, while in the eastern portion of the region the occurrence of siderite in the lead lodes is noteworthy, even though it is of no importance. In the mines at Allenheads the siderite occurs in regular lodes, while at Stanhope Burn, on the other hand, the country-rock is traversed by such a tangle of veins containing iron and lead that the whole mass is quarried. Some of these mines worked the gossan resulting from atmospheric oxidation of the siderite.

The siderite is sometimes white or yellowish-grey, the so-called white ore; and sometimes dark grey, microcrystalline and then feebly magnetic, the so-called grey ore. As the result of oxidation an envelope of limonite is now sometimes found enclosing kernels of white siderite. These deposits are found in the Great Limestone, particularly where two fissure-systems intersect, as for instance at the Carrick mines.

Unlike the above-mentioned ores, the red hæmatite at Whitehaven in Cumberland and of Furness in Lancashire is a very valuable ore which, containing 50 per cent of iron and but little phosphorus, is admirably suited to the Bessemer process. This ore is found in rocks of Silurian age as well as in the Carboniferous limestone, though only the occurrences in the latter are of any practical importance. Both formations consist of an alternation of limestones with shales and sandstones. While however the ore-bearing limestones display thicknesses of 100 m. or more, the interbedded sandstones and shales are generally only 1 m. in thickness and seldom reach as much as 4 metres.

The ore-bodies are usually fissure-fillings and pockets such as that illustrated in Fig. 367, though some are quite irregular and penetrate deep

into the limestone. They are not always at the same horizon but may occur in any layer, from the lowest, lying immediately upon the Silurian, to the highest forming the base of the Grit and Yoredale Rocks at Whitehaven and Furness respectively. The shape of the deposit varies greatly according to the degree to which the limestone has surrendered to alteration.

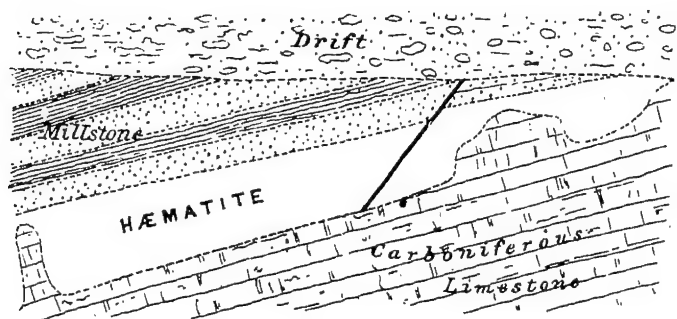


FIG. 366.—Diagrammatic section of the Parkside iron deposit. J. D. Kendall.

At Bigrigg, Crowgarth, and Parkside, the ore-bodies are irregular masses immediately under the Millstone Grit, which, as illustrated in Fig. 366, may form the actual hanging-wall. In other cases bed-like bodies are formed which may be 65 feet or more in thickness.

The superficial extent of these occurrences may sometimes be quite considerable; that for instance at Parkside covers 18 acres, or 72,000

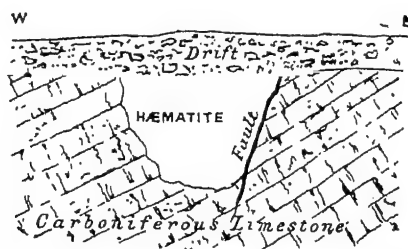


FIG. 367.—Diagrammatic section of the occurrence worked by the Crossfield Iron Company. Louis.

sq. m., while numerous others cover from 8000 to 40,000 square metres. A good example of a pocket-like deposit is that illustrated in Fig. 367, which is worked in opencut by the Crossfield Iron Company.

The Parkside and Lindal Moor deposits in the Furness district occur in the lower portion of the Carboniferous limestone. The first of these has a superficial extent of 60,000 sq. m., and at one point has been proved to a

depth of more than 100 metres. The occurrence at Lindal Moor has a length of 800 m. and a thickness of 21 metres.

The geological position of occurrences bounded by Silurian slate may be gathered from Fig. 368.

The Whitehaven hæmatite, which is generally of a dull red colour, often forms compact masses in which numerous irregular cavities occur. In the Furness district, apart from the occurrences at Lindal Moor, Stank, and Askam, the ore differs materially from that at Whitehaven, in that it is usually soft and friable and consists in greater part of delicate filmy micaceous hæmatite which envelops compact ore having often a concretionary structure.

The harder hæmatite, known locally as 'blast ore,' is smelted direct,

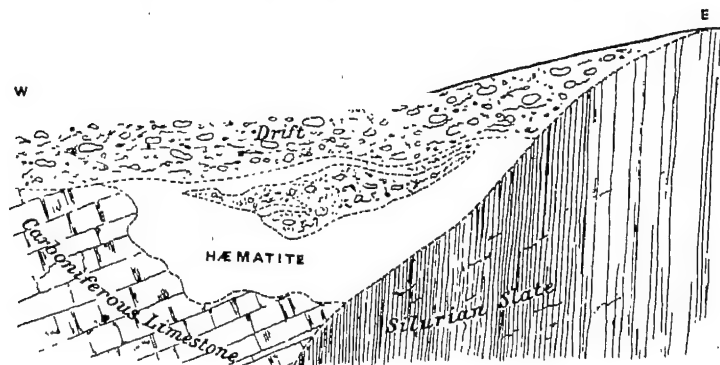


FIG. 368.—Diagrammatic section of an iron deposit in Carboniferous limestone bounded by Silurian.

while the softer variety, the so-called 'smitty ore,' is used for lining the puddle furnaces.

While the soft ore at Furness contains no fossils, numerous fossils, all belonging to the Mountain Limestone, have been found in the compact ore at Lindal Moor.

Concerning genesis, it is very probable that in the metasomatic replacement of the limestone the iron was first deposited as carbonate, which carbonate subsequently became altered to hæmatite by oxidizing meteoric agencies. It is more difficult to settle the question of the source of the iron.

Kendall is inclined to regard the Coal-measures as this source. He points out that the sandstones and shales of these measures contain a considerable amount of iron, and that since probably these rocks formerly covered the Carboniferous limestone of this metalliferous district, it is possible that carbonic acid waters carrying iron percolated to the limestone beneath, which they then replaced.

The production of Cumberland hæmatite in 1881 amounted to 1,615,635 tons, and that of Lancashire for the same year to 1,189,836 tons. In 1882 Cumberland reached its highest production with 1,725,478 tons, since when there has been a gradual but irregular decrease. In 1894, for instance, the production was 1,286,590 tons containing 54 per cent of iron, worth £698,457. In Lancashire the output for the same year was but 870,500 tons with 51 per cent of iron, worth £372,576.

Like the Cumberland district, that of Furness also appears to have reached its zenith in 1882, when 1,408,693 tons were produced. Since that date there has been a gradual decrease, the production in 1890, for instance, being under one million tons.

## THE IRON DEPOSITS AT BILBAO

### LITERATURE

BOURSON. 'Les Mines de Somorrostro,' Rev. univers. Vol. IV., and Bol. mapa geologico, Vol. VI.—REVAUX. 'Die Eisenerzgruben bei Bilbao,' Génie civil, 1883, Nos. 12 and 13.—A. HABETS. 'Note sur l'état actuel des mines de fer de Bilbao,' Rev. univ. des min. (3) III. 4, 1888.—D. RAMON ADÁN DE YARZA. Descripción física y geológica de la provincia de Vizcaya, Madrid, 1892; Mem. de la Com. del Mapa Geol. de España, 1892.—H. WEDDING. 'Die Eisenerze an der Nordküste von Spanien in den provinzen Vizcaya und Santander,' Verh. Ver. f. Gewerbf., p. 293. Berlin, 1896.—Review in Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1897, p. 254.—W. GILL. 'The Present Position of the Iron Ore Industries of Biscay and Santander,' Journ. Iron and Steel Inst., 1896, Vol. II. p. 36.—JOHN. 'Die Eisenerzlagerstätten von Bilbao und ihre Bedeutung für die zukünftige Eisenerzversorgung Grossbritanniens und Deutschlands,' Glückauf, 1910, pp. 2002 and 2045.

This ironfield in northern Spain, so important in supplying ore to England and Germany, lies, as indicated in Fig. 369, in greater part between the Somorrostro and Nervion rivers, and but a short distance from the shores of the Bay of Biscay.

In this situation it extends in a north-westerly direction along the left bank of the Nervion for a length of 24 km. with a maximum width of 10 kilometres. The various occurrences, lying 250–500 m. above the sea, form part of a mountain chain which, beginning approximately 5 km. from the coast, rises to heights of 890 m., 909 m., and 1006 m. at Peña Obieta, Monte Ereza, and Monte Ganerogorta, respectively.

The disposition of the different districts is as follows: That of Galdames extends along the south-west slope of the Peña Pastores at a height of 450–500 m.; the large occurrences at Triano and Matamoros, forming together the district of Somorrostro, extend upon a hilly plateau between the Pico de Moruecos and the Pico de Mendivil; the district of Regato occurs south of this plateau, along the left bank of the Regato river which flows into the Rio Galindo; that of Guenes occurs farther south-east,

FIG. 369.—General geological map of the Bilbao ironfield. Scale 1 : 130,000.

between Monte Ereza and the Peña de Espelardi; while that of Baracaldo occurs east of the last-named hill. The district of Alonsotegui lies on the right bank of the Rio Cadagua; the Primitiva mine is situated west of Monte Arraiz; while the Iturrigorri district extends east of that hill. Above Bilbao, along the river Nervion, are found the Ollargan, El Morro, and Miravilla mines. In the western portion of the field, along the west bank of the Rio Somorrostro not far from the boundary with the province of Santander, the mines Arcentales and Sopuerta are found to the south, and Amalia Vizcaya, Asuncion, and Francisco to the north.

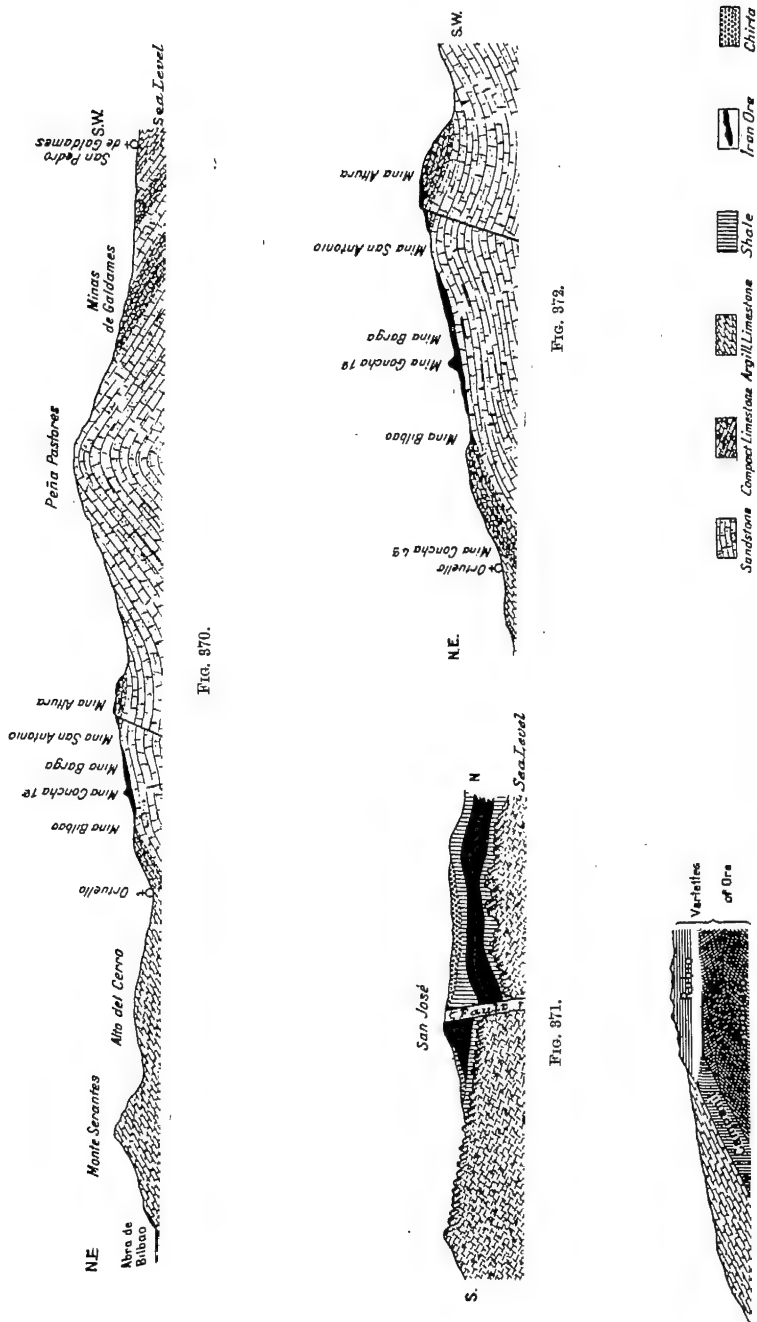
In consequence of the short distance from the river Bilbao, which is navigable as far as the town of that name, the situation of these deposits with regard to transport is very favourable, shipment being made both from Portugalete and Luchana. According to investigation undertaken by Yarza, Collette, Verneuil, Colomb, Triger, and others, the rocks of this district, striking in a south-east direction parallel to the Pyrenees, belong chiefly to the Cretaceous, that is, either to the Gault or to the Cenomanian. The Gault from below upwards consists when undecomposed of bluish-grey, and when weathered of yellowish-brown, micaceous, fine-grained, and non-fossiliferous sandstone beds followed by fossiliferous limestone in massive beds of variable thickness, traversed by calcite veins. In this limestone the ore-deposits occur, this rock being known by the miners as the mother of the ore.

Above the Gault comes the Cenomanian, this series consisting first of a clayey limestone, which contains fragments of *Acanthoceras Mantelli* and at Triano, for instance, forms the hanging-wall of the deposits; and then of sandstone and marl in which *Ammonites peramplus* are found.

Outside of the metalliferous district, on the right bank of the Rio de Bilbao, the hill Monte Axpe, consisting of trachyte and ophite, occurs.

Concerning the superficial extent of the individual geological horizons in this district, the sandstones and limestones of the Lower Gault have the widest distribution. These extend in a south-east striking strip 7 km. wide, alongside of which to the north-east and south-west the clayey Cenomanian limestone ranges itself. This disposition of the beds is indicated in Fig. 369. The upper sandstones and marls are no longer present in this district. The sandstones and limestones in which the deposits occur have been compressed to form a more or less steeply folded mountain chain, the altitudes of the highest points of which have already been given. Further illustration of this geological position is provided by Figs. 370-373, from which it will be seen that with many of the occurrences the Gault sandstone forms an anticlinal core upon which in most cases there remain only patches of the limestone. Within these patches





Figs. 370-373.—Diagrammatic sections through the Bilbao ironfield.

Fig. 373.

the metasomatic iron deposits find their seat and protection; they occur chiefly at the contact of limestone and sandstone. Other deposits are found in limestone synclines, such deposits occurring more particularly near the surface and at the contact with the upper sandstone. The deposits consequently are found chiefly along the boundary planes of both the upper and the lower limestone.

A dependence of the deposits upon the presence of faults may often be observed, this being always possible when the deposit occurs in an outcrop of limestone, as for instance at Triano and in the San Francisco mine.

These deposits are generally in the form of elongated and often irregular or indefinite lenses some 300–500 m. long with an average width of 100 metres. They strike roughly south-east, that is, conformably to the country.

The largest bodies are found in the Somorrostro district, these being the two occurrences at Matamoros and Triano which in all probability are parts of what was formerly one continuous deposit. Matamoros is known for a length of 2250 m. and a width of 900 m., and Triano for 3100 m. and 100–1300 m. respectively. Next, in point of size, come the deposits worked in the mines San Louis, Silfide, and Abondonoda, near Miravilla above Bilbao, the lengths of these deposits being approximately 1200 metres. In addition to these larger deposits there are many other smaller and irregular occurrences.

In all cases the thickness varies exceedingly, and in depth particularly the deposits become irregular. At Triano, for example, the thickness in the Barga mine is roughly 40 m., while in the Altura mine it is but 10 metres. Between the deposit and the sandstone or limestone forming the foot-wall, there is often a bed of clay 2–6 m. thick; at other places, however, irregular limestone protuberances penetrate the ore.

Almost all the known deposits come to the surface, though in the Somorrostro district a thin clayey Cenomanian limestone covers the deposit. Similarly, all the deposits so far developed occur at a considerable height above sea-level, Triano at 250–500 m., Galdames at 300 m., and Sorpresso in the Arcentales-Sopuerta district, at 470–580 m., Primitiva near Castrejana at 300 m., and those at Gueñes at 600 metres.

In the formation of these deposits the limestone was first altered to siderite, which subsequently, in the neighbourhood of the surface and by the action of surface agencies, became altered to limonite or hæmatite, while siderite still existed in depth. It is an interesting fact that hæmatite is only found where the deposit does not directly come to surface.

The siderite is termed *Carbonato*; it is sometimes yellowish-white and typically coarsely-crystalline; sometimes grey and then granular.

The first condition, representing the better quality, has a higher value than the latter.

As with all metasomatic ores, kernels of undecomposed limestone are not uncommon. The gradation of ore to limestone around the margins of the deposit takes place similarly to that described in the case of Kamsdorf.<sup>1</sup> Important masses of siderite are more particularly found at Triano, in the mines Concha, Inocencia, Trinidad, Buena Fortuna, and Esperanza.

When hæmatite occurs pseudomorphic after siderite in a compact and crystalline aggregate it is known as *Campanil*, while when earthy it is termed *Vena*. In this latter condition it is often found beneath a thickness of limonite or of *Campanil*, but also in veins crossing other ores, hence its name. The largest masses or quantities of both *Campanil* and *Vena* are found in the Triano deposit.

The Bilbao limonite is yellowish or reddish, in consequence of which it is known as *Rubio*. Its structure, in harmony with its character as an alteration product, is generally cavernous, most of the cavities being lined with stalactitic and reniform limonite and with quartz crystals, while the cavities themselves are often to a great extent occupied by clayey material.

When the limonite occurs earthy it often contains pyrite crystals as well as sulphur arising from the decomposition of pyrite. In it also, many kernels of unaltered limestone occur. In addition, a fragmentary ore consisting of clay and limonite fragments and known as *Chirta*, is now and then met.

Limonite occurs exclusively in the neighbourhood of the surface. Of all the ores in the Bilbao district it has the widest distribution. Between siderite, limonite, and hæmatite, there are all sorts of gradations, in most of which however limonite preponderates; such ores are known as *Rubio Avenado*.

The Bilbao ores are in general of medium iron content, that is, on an average they contain 50–52 per cent of iron. They are almost free from deleterious constituents. The silica content is moderate; phosphorus and sulphur are almost completely absent. They are consequently ideal Bessemer ores.

The chemical composition of the different ores may be gathered from the following table :

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 835.

## ORE-DEPOSITS

<i>Carbonato (Siderite)</i>					
	Superior. Per cent.	Inferior. Per cent.		Superior. Per cent.	Inferior. Per cent.
Metallic iron . . . .	41.474	38.780	Lime . . . .	1.700	1.560
Manganese . . . .	0.935	0.695	Alumina . . . .	0.170	0.300
Phosphorus . . . .	0.017	0.019	Carbonic acid . . . .	33.633	32.957
Sulphur . . . .	0.140	0.270	Silicic acid . . . .	6.590	8.990
Magnesia . . . .	0.450	0.870	Combined water . . . .	0.480	1.480

<i>Campanil</i>					
	Per cent.			Per cent.	
Metallic iron . . . .	52.749	Lime . . . .		5.530	
Manganese . . . .	1.333	Alumina . . . .		1.840	
Phosphorus . . . .	0.010	Carbonic acid . . . .		0.093	
Sulphur . . . .	0.014	Silicic acid . . . .		5.300	
Magnesia . . . .	1.540	Combined water . . . .		7.470	

<i>Vena</i>					
	Per cent.			Per cent.	
Metallic iron . . . .	56.809	Lime . . . .		1.310	
Manganese . . . .	0.846	Alumina . . . .		1.200	
Phosphorus . . . .	0.015	Carbonic acid . . . .		0.100	
Sulphur . . . .	0.016	Silicic acid . . . .		6.210	
Magnesia . . . .	0.450	Combined water . . . .		0.120	

<i>Rubio</i>					
	Per cent.			Per cent.	
Metallic iron . . . .	51.065	Lime . . . .		0.500	
Manganese . . . .	0.492	Alumina . . . .		1.700	
Phosphorus . . . .	0.024	Carbonic acid . . . .		0.850	
Sulphur . . . .	0.040	Silicic acid . . . .		9.750	
Magnesia . . . .	0.250	Combined water . . . .		6.950	

<i>Rubio Avenda</i>					
	Per cent.			Per cent.	
Metallic iron . . . .	54.959	Lime . . . .		0.850	
Manganese . . . .	0.568	Alumina . . . .		1.250	
Phosphorus . . . .	0.013	Carbonic acid . . . .		0.650	
Sulphur . . . .	0.025	Silicic acid . . . .		7.120	
Magnesia . . . .	0.550	Combined water . . . .		4.100	

In spacial connection with, as well as in genetic dependence upon these metasomatic and oxidized ores are the fragmentary deposits which yield the ore known as *Chirta*. These are mostly loose, only partly cemented agglomerates of more or less rounded pieces of limonite enveloped in a red clay. The fragments are often but a few millimetres in size, and seldom consist of hæmatite.

These deposits were formed by the mechanical destruction and subsequent natural concentration of the original metasomatic deposits. They are generally found upon ore *in situ*, in which situation they constitute eluvial deposits. Often also they occupy depressions on the surface, in which case they are separated from the main deposit by a layer of clay of variable thickness. These widely distributed detrital or eluvial deposits fluctuate in thickness between a few centimetres and 5 metres. Their position in reference to the main deposit is indicated in Fig. 371.

The ore is recovered from the *Chirita* by washing, when 40–50 per cent of the material washed is recovered as iron ore of a composition corresponding exactly to that of the limonite of the original deposit.

The importance of these *Chirita* deposits is evident from the fact that some mines by washing such material produce 500 tons of ore daily. The most important of such deposits are: in the Triano district, the mines Rubia, Ventura and Josefita, Cerrillo, Marta and Capela; in the Regato district, the mine Lejana; in the Galdames district, Elvira and La Buena; in the Arcetales-Sopuerta district, Catalina and Safo; and in the Ollargan, El Morro, and Miravilla districts, the mines Segunda and San Pedro.

Fluviatile gravel-deposits in the Bilbao field occur on both sides of the river Cadegal, where from the Vicenta and Maria mines about 60 tons are won daily. The length of such deposits is stated to amount to several kilometres. It is interesting to note that in a vertical section through these deposits porous uncemented ore often alternates with compact ore.

Concerning the genesis of the original deposits at Bilbao, the following factors must be considered: The plication of the Cretaceous beds took place between the Eocene and Miocene periods. At this plication not only did synclines and anticlines result, but a number of other disturbances in addition. One probable consequence of the folding was the ascent of mineral solutions containing carbonic acid and iron. These solutions, more particularly where sandstone was the foot-wall, metasomatically altered the limestone, this alteration having probably taken place in Miocene time. First then, as with almost all metasomatic iron deposits, siderite was formed, which mineral afterwards became changed to limonite and hæmatite.

In Tertiary time also, the disintegration of the primary occurrence began, this continuing into the Alluvium. In this manner the *Chirita* deposits, that is, the eluvial and fluviatile gravel-deposits, were formed, some of which are being worked to-day. Since in the chemical alteration of siderite to limonite cavities result, which by the action of meteoric waters become partly filled with fragmentary ore, the above-mentioned vertical alternation of porous with compact ore, arises. The large amount of these fragmentary ores indicates the tremendous volume of water which must have been active in their formation.

According to the view held by Wedding, which Krusch however controverts,<sup>1</sup> limonite and hæmatite are primary and to be regarded as precipitates from a lake, such lake having been formed after part replacement of the limestone by siderite had taken place. This however is not in agreement with the generally accepted view concerning the origin of these deposits.

<sup>1</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1897, p. 254.

The importance of this Bilbao field may be gathered from the following table of tons produced in different years :

	<i>Vena.</i>	<i>Campanil.</i>	<i>Carbonato.</i>	<i>Rubio.</i>	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1901	400,000	200,000	750,000	3,273,312	4,623,312
1902	...	57,081	442,237	4,482,500	4,981,818
1903	...	81,634	509,801	4,417,078	5,308,513
1904	...	54,537	801,582	4,983,885	5,620,458
1905	...	33,363	478,122	5,186,163	5,597,648
1906	...	140,000	546,577	4,396,421	5,082,998

From these figures it is seen that in 1902 the production of *Vena* had completely ceased, while that of *Campanil* had diminished considerably. *Rubio* is responsible for the largest percentage of the ore produced, this varying between 70.9 and 91 per cent. The increase in production shown by these figures is due to the working of the fragmentary deposits, this having been first seriously undertaken in 1902.

According to John, from the figures of the annual reports of the British Consul, the relation between the *Rubio* obtained by washing and that won from the oxidation zone has been as follows :

	Total <i>Rubio.</i>	<i>Rubio</i> obtained by Washing.	Equivalent Percentage of the Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	
1902	4,482,500	330,000	6.7
1903	4,717,078	450,000	9.5
1904	4,983,885	550,000	11.0
1905	5,186,163	700,000	13.0
1906	4,396,421	900,000	20.4

These figures would indicate that a further rise in the proportion of the washed *Rubio* is likely.

The quantity of ore available in this district was in the year 1883 estimated by Goénaga<sup>1</sup> at 48,000,000 tons, while J. Forrest in the same year estimated 55,000,000 tons.<sup>2</sup> Ramon Adán de Yarza<sup>3</sup> in the year 1892 came to the much higher figure of 163,350,000 tons. The latest estimate is that published by Luis M. Vidal in *The Iron Ore Resources of the World*, Stockholm 1910, according to which, the amount of ore produced in the province of Biscay during the 32 years immediately preceding, was 150,000,000 tons, while the amount at that time still to be won was 61,000,000 tons. The greatest proportion of these tonnages is accounted for by the Bilbao district.

<sup>1</sup> *Revista Minera bei Triano und Malamoros.*

<sup>2</sup> *North of England Inst. Min. Mech. Eng. Ante*, p. 197.

<sup>3</sup> *Op. cit.* p. 826.

## THURINGIAN FOREST

(a) *Kamsdorf near Saalfeld*

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The Palæozoic mountain core of the Thuringian Forest is separated from the Zechstein and Triassic fore-ground to the north, by a well-defined boundary fault. This bayonet-like break, which in places is developed as a flexure, is of great importance in the metasomatic mineralization, in that it served as the circulation channel for the solutions. While it generally conforms to an Hercynian strike, east of the Saale it strikes east-west, losing at the same time its simple character and breaking up into a number of parallel fissures accompanied by step-faulting. From these fissures the Zechstein limestone and dolomite near Kamsdorf, dipping flatly to the north-north-west, were altered to iron ore.

Two different Zechstein horizons were thus attacked. The Zechstein, lying unconformably upon the Culm, consists in its lower portion of a conglomerate, above which comes the Kupferschiefer, and then limestone with intercalated bituminous marly slates; in its middle portion, of the main dolomite which in part is porous; and in its upper section, of a lower variegated clay, a blocky dolomite, and an upper variegated clay. The beds to suffer alteration are, in the first place the lower limestone, and then subordinately the middle dolomite. The Upper Zechstein contains no iron ore.

The iron solutions to which the replacement is due circulated in the main fissures, producing siderite, or 'mica' as the miners at Kamsdorf call it. This alteration is the most intense along the fissures, from whence the intensity diminishes with distance. With complete replacement the original structure and bedding of the limestone may no longer be recognized. As indicated in Fig. 374, around the borders the ore merges into ferruginous limestone, which in turn gradually gives way to normal limestone.

It is interesting to note that at Kamsdorf not all the limestone layers were equally susceptible to this alteration, and that in consequence the iron content and the extension of the alteration varies with the layers. Generally a lower and an upper deposit are distinguished, these two being separated by a bed of slate. In places however there are other subordinate deposits.

The width of the deposit at right angles to the plane of the fissure is generally 20–50 m. with 80 m. as a maximum. The maximum thickness

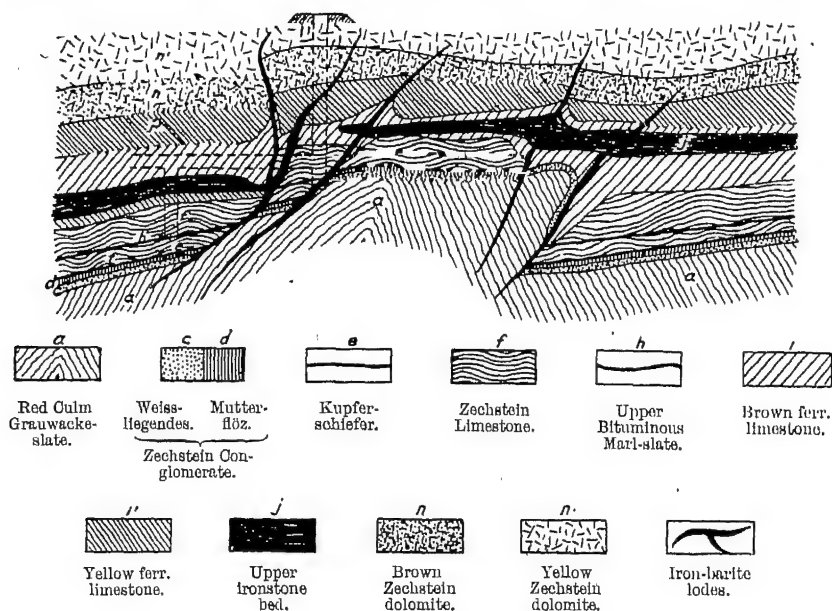


FIG. 874.—Section of the iron deposits at Kamsdorf in Thuringia. Scale 1 : 2000. Beyschlag, *Jahrb. d. geol. Landesanst.* 1888.

is usually 4–8 m., from which maximum it gradually diminishes till the deposit disappears.

By the secondary process of oxidation, in which doubtless oxidation-metasomatism played a part, the siderite, and especially that of the upper bed, has become changed to limonite.

Kamsdorf is distinguished from all other similar metasomatic deposits in that copper occurs both in the fissures themselves as well as in the altered limestone in their immediate neighbourhood.

The average composition of the ore may be gathered from the following figures of percentage content :



	Fe.	Mn.	CaO.	MgO.	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> .	SiO <sub>2</sub> .	P.	S.	Cu.	BaSO <sub>4</sub> .
Siderite . . .	36.0	3.5	4.7	1.80	0.12	4.2	0.20	0.24	...	0.5
Limonite . . .	46.0	5.0	3.6	0.86	0.52	6.7	0.02	0.10	...	1.2
Ferruginous limestone . . .	15.9	3.6	33.6	0.94	0.05	1.6	...	0.04	0.1	0.3

The ferruginous limestone is used as ferruginous flux.

The annual production of Kamsdorf is about 120,000 tons. The ore is smelted at the Maxhütte furnaces at Unterwellenborn. It is noticeable however that high-grade ore is no longer produced to any great extent, but that ferruginous flux with a low iron content preponderates, this flux being smelted with the neighbouring chamosite and thuringite from Schmiedefeld.

(b) *The Neighbourhood of Schmalkalden, including the Occurrences at Stahlberg, Mommel, and Klinge*

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The deposits in this neighbourhood occur between Liebenstein and Seligenthal, along the south border of the Thuringian Forest, where they occupy a geological position similar to that of the occurrences at Kamsdorf. The southern boundary fault of the Thuringian Forest, which on this side also separates the fore-ground from the western core, is likewise not a simple fissure but one of many components accompanied by step-faulting, giving to the Zechstein in places a large horizontal extent.

One of the two main components, known as the Stahlberg break, runs through Seligenthal north of Schmalkalden, in a north-west direction through the Stahlberg, the Kammerkuppe, etc., to a position north-west of Beierode. Along this fault and its tributary fissures occur: to the east at Seligenthal, the Stahlberg iron mine; to the west at Herges, the Mommel iron and barite mine; and in addition some independent barite mines. Not many kilometres to the north occurs the second and parallel main fault upon which the Klinge iron mine is situated.

While the Stahlberg break generally brings Bunter sandstone against the blocky dolomite, along the Klinge fault fundamental gneiss and mica-schist come up against that dolomite.

At all three of the deposits mentioned the Zechstein lies unconformably upon the mica-schist, though at none of them is it completely

developed, the Lower Zechstein being fully present only at Asbach and Liebenstein. The Middle and Upper Zechstein are however always complete.

In regard to mineralization the blocky dolomite is most important since the deposits are chiefly associated with it. This thick-layered dolomite is of a grey or yellowish-brown colour and of friable character, while between its different layers rauchwacke-like, porous, and sandy rocks occasionally occur. As at Kamsdorf so also here, siderite was first formed which afterwards by oxidation, partly from the surface and partly from fissures,

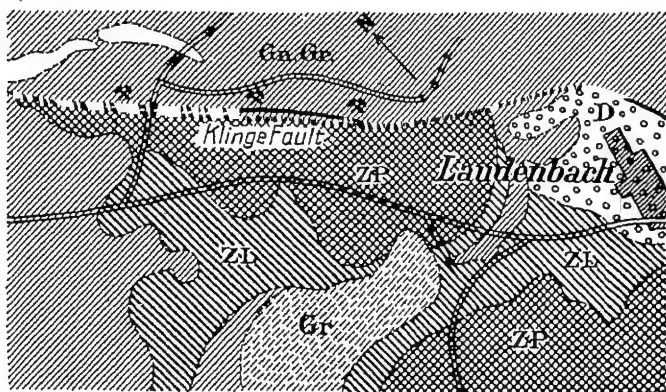


FIG. 375.—Position of the limonite pockets along the Klinge Fault. Scale 1 : 25,000. Scheibe.

Gr.=granite; Gn. Gr.=gneissic granite; ZP=Zechstein Blocky Dolomite; ZL=Zechstein Clay;  
D=diluvial detritus; x=iron deposits.

became altered to limonite. This limonite often displays the structure of siderite, though it also occasionally occurs in the form of kidney ore.

In consequence of the contraction in volume which takes place at the alteration of siderite to limonite, the oxidized ore is porous and friable but yet stiff enough to smelt in the blast furnace, earthy and loose ore occurring only in the neighbourhood of the outcrop. The siderite is coarsely crystalline and generally of a leather colour; when whitish-grey and finely-crystalline it has a lower iron content. The ferruginous limestone resembles the limestone and dolomite in structure and bedding, though, differing from the occurrence at Kamsdorf, it contains but 5–12 per cent of iron.

More than was the case at Kamsdorf, these Schmallkalden deposits are distinguished by a large number of associated minerals. Of these barite is the most common, this mineral partly occurring massive in veins and nests, rather in the limonite than the siderite. Calcite is not uncommon.

The high manganese content of the ore, which at the oxidation of siderite becomes concentrated in nests of pyrolusite, is particularly notable.

The composition of the Schmalkalden ore may be gathered from the following analyses :

	Fe.	Mn.	CaO.	MgO.	BaSO <sub>4</sub> .	SiO <sub>2</sub> .	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> .	H <sub>2</sub> O.	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> .	CO <sub>2</sub> .	S.
lerite—											
Coarsely-crystalline	39.3	5.2	1.1	1.5	...	4.4	...	...	...	48.2	...
Compact . . .	34.9	5.7	0.7	1.4	...	12.3	...	...	...	44.7	...
Raw ore . . .	37.3	7.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Roasted . . .	52.0	6.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
nonite—											
Mommel, old aver-					BaO						
age sample . . .	44.3	5.8	1.9	1.1	6.2	12.7	2.6	7.3	...	...	...
Mommel, decom-										CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	...
posed . . .	40.6	5.1	1.7	3.6	1.4	0.5	0.9	...	0.04	27.3	...
			CaO + MgO								
Hand specimen . .	49.2	6.1	9.3	...	...	17.06	1.9	...	...	11.2	...

From these figures it is seen that the ore must be termed a good ore. The average content of the raw ore is about 40–50 per cent of iron, with 5–6 per cent of manganese. Deleterious substances are present in but small amount, so that only a moderate amount of flux is necessary.

The yearly production of Stahlberg and Mommel—the Klinge is at present not working—is about 5000 tons, part of which is smelted in the Schmalkalden furnace, while the remainder is sent to Westphalia. By smelting, an almost phosphorus- and sulphur-free manganiferous charcoal iron is obtained which is famous for its fine quality.

## IBERG NEAR GRUND

### LITERATURE

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Iberg, 565 m. above sea-level, and Winterberg, form together a Devonian ellipse, 2.3 km. long in a north-west direction and 1 km. wide, near the western border of the Harz, this ellipse rising as an uplift from the Culm slates and grauwackes of the Oberharz plateau. The sharply

defined topographical boundary of the Devonian coral limestone results from a partial sinking of the Culm beds against this Devonian uplift, along fissures belonging to the Oberharz lode-system. The southern boundary for instance is formed by the Silbernaal lode-series with its subsidiary and associated fissures.

Not everywhere, of course, is the boundary of the Devonian against the Culm referable exclusively to tectonic disturbance; several underground developments have indeed shown that Culm beds were actually deposited upon the limestone; while, occasionally, faults which on surface appear as boundary faults, in depth penetrate the Devonian limestone. From the south-east striking and mostly south-west dipping boundary faults and the numerous subsidiary fissures accompanying them, the limestone became changed by mineral solutions to siderite, while barite and quartz were deposited at the same time. This replacement of the limestone is neither regular nor uniform. It is much more usual to find a succession of small funnel-shaped bodies, in which the limestone appears sometimes silicified or dolomitized, and sometimes altered to siderite, and then again by oxidation to limonite.

At such oxidation the isomorphous substances associated with the siderite—and especially manganese oxides, calcite, and dolomite—became separated in part as well-defined crystals or stalactites. In addition to barite—which often so contaminates the deposit as to make it unpayable—quartz, pyrite, chalcopyrite, bornite, malachite, and asphalt, also occur.

The connection between the metasomatic alteration of the Iberg limestone and the latest fillings of the Oberharz lodes west of the Innerste, is notorious. On the one hand, the boundary faults on the south-west, embracing the Prinz Regent and Ober lodes, carry the same filling as the Oberharz lodes; while, on the other, the barite of the Iberg ironstone may have been introduced in aqueous solution from the neighbouring Zechstein along the westerly continuations of the boundary faults, just as the Lautenthal saline spring, to-day deposits barium sulphate in the pipes underground in the mines.

The disposition and intensity of the water circulation through these fissures is still recognizable in the numerous caves and pot-holes formed, such as may be observed in great number at Iberg. The separate ore-pockets are very irregular in form. Bodies of 1 m. in thickness may suddenly swell out to 40 m. and just as quickly completely disappear. With these it cannot always be said whether the cavities in which they occur were formed from fissures, or whether such bodies resulted from typical metasomatism. Since however at Iberg both types of deposit occur closely associated, the occurrences without doubt belong to the class of cavity-fillings with associated metasomatic deposits.

The composition of the siderite and limonite may be gathered from the following analyses, each of which represents the average of many determinations:

	Raw Siderite.		Limonite.	
	Prinz Regent Lode.	Pfannenberg und Stieg Mine.	I.	II.
Fe . . . .	33.04	31.68	43.15	50.03
Mn . . . .	6.02	6.03	8.45	8.66
CaO . . . .	4.61	3.28	2.11	3.52
MgO . . . .	2.66	2.62	0.16	Trace
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . .	11.25	10.29	10.50	9.98
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	1.17	2.27	3.16	...
S . . . . .	0.16	0.15	0.05	0.10
P . . . . .	Trace	0.028	0.05	Trace

The iron content of the siderite fluctuates generally between 25 and 35 per cent.

Formerly, a brisk industry flourished upon these deposits. This however came to an end in the 'eighties, less for want of ore than because of general economic conditions, and particularly because after the starting of the Westphalian furnaces that at Gittelde was obliged to stop. Einecke and Köhler however are of the opinion that in these deposits there is a sufficient ore-reserve to last a single furnace for a long time.

## SCHAFBERG AND HÜGGEI

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Between the western outliers of the Weser Hills and the Teutoburg Forest occur the Hüggei and Schafberg ridges. These consist of Coal-measures surrounded by a mantle of Zechstein, Bunter, and other younger formations. In this district also, the iron deposits are associated with the Zechstein, of which, along the northern outline of the Hüggei and the southern outline of the Schafberg, the limestone has been altered just as at Kamsdorf and Schmalkalden.

The Schafberg forms a subsidiary fold of the large Hercynian main fold. The Zechstein lying upon the Coal-measures consists of the basal conglomerate, the 0.75 m. thick Kupferschiefer which here only contains traces of copper, and thin-layered dolomitic limestone, this last constituting the principal mass of the formation. The district is traversed by strike- and dip faults, these being particularly noticeable along the southern outline of the Schafberg.

The iron deposits are associated with the thin-layered dolomitic lime-

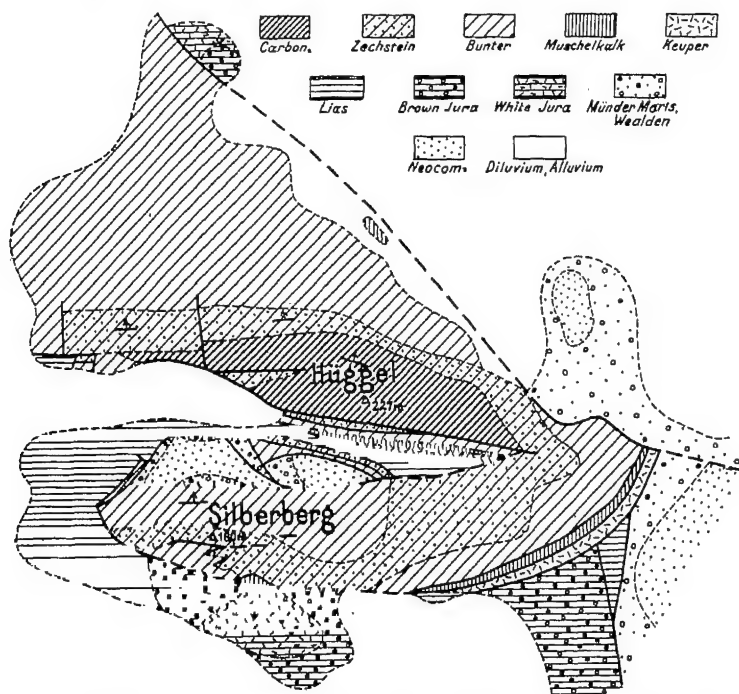


FIG. 376.—Geological plan of the Hüggl district. Scale 1:75,000. Haack.

stone, from the material of which however they are sharply separated. They consist of irregular pockets of limonite which, though sometimes but a few metres in size, may at times be more than 100 metres. Such are found right around the Schafberg. Concerning their extent in depth very little is known as the deepest workings are but 20 m. below the surface. The limestone in which the masses occur is well bedded, the separate layers being 5–15 cm. in thickness and dipping 20°–35° to the south. Only in the immediate neighbourhood of the ore is it at all ferruginous, displaying then chimneys or pipes from finger to arm's thickness, these being occasionally filled with loose sand. Intercalated with the ore are

beds of silica, so that, unlike that at the Hüggel, this ore contains some insoluble residue.

While some of the deposits are connected with one another, most occur isolated in the limestone. There is no regularity in their occurrence; they do not all lie in the direction of the faults, and it must therefore be assumed that the solutions themselves made their own way out from the fissures. Almost always however, their extension is greater along than across the bedding, probably because the bedding-planes facilitated the circulation.

The deposits at the Schafberg are undoubtedly due to the metasomatic replacement of limestone, though the actual source of the solutions, which some say came from depth and others from surface, is not clear.

The composition of the ore may be gathered from the following analyses:

	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	74.90	69.16	50.51	...	...
Fe . . . . .	52.48	48.41	35.36	42.94	42.30
Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . .	0.37	0.46	7.87	...	...
Mn . . . . .	0.26	0.32	5.47	2.27	1.92
CaO . . . . .	Trace	Trace	1.40	2.10	2.70
MgO . . . . .	Trace	Trace	Trace	...	3.20
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . . .	6.00	12.10	23.80	17.80	17.60
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	3.18	3.31	3.80	5.59	2.53
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> . . . . .	0.22	0.13	0.09	0.90	0.08
P . . . . .	0.09	0.05	0.03	...	...
SO <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	0.34	0.32	0.20	...	...
S . . . . .	0.13	0.13	0.08	0.16	0.08
ZnO . . . . .	2.20	2.35	3.00	1.10	1.15
Zn . . . . .	1.77	1.89	2.41	...	...
Loss on ignition	12.43	12.26	9.51	...	...
Insoluble residue	...	...	...	10.66	12.25

The limonite ore as mined, on account of its porosity, contains 35–50 per cent of water; the iron content, as with most metasomatic deposits, is comparatively high; the manganese content fluctuates greatly, as does also the amount of silica present, both however being usually considerable. The ore is smelted at the Georgs-Marien works where it is used to offset the calcareous preponderance of the Hüggel ore.

The Hüggel deposit when the poorer portions are included is exceedingly thick, since practically the whole of the Zechstein limestone, 30–40 m. in thickness, is ferruginous.

The Zechstein formation above the Kupferschiefer consists of a 5–10 m. thick bituminous limestone poor in iron, the so-called Stinkstein, followed by the ferruginous beds, the iron content of which decreases towards the top. The only bed of clean ore is the 8–10 m. on the foot-

wall, the 20-30 m. above this bed being ferruginous flux, as which indeed it is mined.

In this case also, the limestone was first altered to siderite which subsequently by meteoric waters became oxidized to limonite, or, in the uppermost portions and in consequence of advanced weathering, to a dark-yellow or brown ochre. The undecomposed light-grey sideritic dolomite in depth is sometimes so ferruginous as to deserve the term siderite.

The developments in the zone of unaltered siderite are particularly interesting. Almost everywhere the yellowish grey siderite is hard and finely-crystalline, occasionally dark bituminous streaks alternate with those of lighter colour, while alternations of siderite and clay-slate have also been observed. In addition, the occurrence of *Styolites* in the ore-bed is noteworthy.

The deposits in general dip and strike uniformly. At places in depth narrow cavities occur between the separate thicknesses, an occurrence which must be regarded as evidence of re-crystallization.

According to Beyschlag these siderite beds were formed metasomatically at the folding and tilting of the Hüggl, when iron solutions penetrated the limestone along fractures and crevices, dissolving that rock and depositing iron carbonate, with the result that where the change was complete clean siderite was formed, and where incomplete, ferruginous limestone.

The parent fissures of these occurrences have not yet been located, and it must therefore be assumed that these in the process of change have been obliterated. The disturbances which have brought the ore-bed into contact with unaltered dolomite are probably of younger age.

The composition of the Hüggl ore may be gathered from the following analyses :

	Limonite.			Siderite.		Flux.	Average of a Calcareous Minette from Lorraine, for comparison.
Fe . . . .	37.0	12.3	36.9	35.9	31.8	14.9	33.1
Mn . . . .	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.3	...
CaO . . . .	7.7	3.2	8.6	10.8	12.4	29.5	15.7
MgO . . . .	1.3	...	...	3.7	3.6	7.8	...
SiO <sub>2</sub> . . . .	16.2	17.6	15.2	4.8	5.0	2.4	8.1
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> . . . .	4.9	2.5	3.2	1.1	1.2	2.8	5.8
S . . . . .	0.1	0.08	0.08	1.5	0.4	...	...
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> . . . .	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.02	0.02	...	1.62
CO <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O .	24.0	12.2	15.8	25.3	27.3	36.4	8.0
		Zn	Zn				
		0.5	0.5				

On an average the limonite contains 35 per cent of iron, 12 per cent



of insoluble residue, and 24 per cent of water; the siderite has less water and only 6-10 per cent of insoluble residue. The ore generally contains but little phosphorus or manganese and is consequently suited for the production of Bessemer steel.

## BIEBER

### LITERATURE

W. BÜCKING. 'Der nordwestliche Spessart,' Abhandl. d. pr. geol. Landesanst., 1892, Part 12, p. 148.—W. BRÜNNEN. Die nutzbaren Mineralien und Gebirgsarten im Deutschen Reiche, 2nd edition of Dechen's work. Berlin, 1906.—Explanatory text with the geol. Spezialkarte of Prussia, etc., Section Bieber and Lorchhaupten.

Bieber lies on the north-west border of the Spessart. In this situation crystalline schists constitute the core of a syncline formed after the deposition of the Bunter, this syncline, still in part overlaid by the Rotliegendes, appearing through a Zechstein and Bunter covering; striking north-west its limbs dip respectively to the north-east and south-west. To the north-east the Bunter continues undisturbed, while to the south-west it is cut by a north-west striking fault, the position of which is indicated on the surface by a ridge. In the foot-wall of this fault, which dips to the south-west, the iron deposits of Bieber occur. These have resulted from the metasomatic alteration of the limestone and dolomite of the lower Middle Zechstein, by iron and silica.

Four payable deposits, known respectively as the Büchelbach, the Streitfeld, the Lager, and the Lochborn beds, have been opened up. Of these only the last, the most important of the whole Spessart, is still being worked. This deposit has been developed for an unbroken length of 2 km., that is, from Galgenberg to the Lochborn valley, while a further continuation of 2 km. has been proved by boring. It runs obliquely to the above-mentioned fault by which to the north it is cut off. Genetically therefore the deposit has nothing to do with this fault, by which indeed it is downthrown 100 m. in the hanging-wall. The width of this 4 km. long Lochborn bed fluctuates, as does also its thickness. The ore moreover does not keep to any fixed horizon, but from west to east it rises higher and higher above the Kupferschiefer, though occasionally the whole thickness between this copper-shale and the Upper Zechstein consists of ore. While the width reaches as much as 450 m., the thickness may therefore be said to vary from nothing to 20 metres. A sharp separation between ore and rock, whether in hanging-wall or foot-wall, is only found when that rock is other than limestone and at the same time not suited to alteration. When limestone forms the country-rock there is a gradual passage from ore to rock.

The ore-bed consists in its lower portion of a bedded, clayey siderite

sprinkled with tetrahedrite, galena, and copper minerals, while the upper portion consists of porous ore in compact limonite. As is often the case with such deposits, the iron ore is associated with the manganese minerals pyrolusite, manganite, psilomelane, and wad, which occur either in independent bunches or finely distributed throughout the mass. In smaller amount occur the carbonate, phosphate, and arsenate of lead, copper, and iron, these probably having resulted from the oxidation of the sulphides. It is possible that these heavy metals have come from the cobalt lodes in the vicinity. The three other beds, at Galgenberg and Burgberg, occur along the continuation of the Lochborn deposit; their thickness however appears to be less, and the ore is more loose, ochreous, and manganiferous.

It will probably not be wrong to ascribe these Bieber deposits to the alteration of limestone by ascending solutions, the channels for which existed in the Zechstein fissures. The first replacement was that by iron ore; then came the lead-, cobalt-, and copper ores, which are younger; while finally, the barite solutions saturated alike both fissure and metasomatic deposit.

The iron content fluctuates between 19 and 34.5 per cent, with a manganese content which may rise as high as 17 per cent, while phosphorus may reach 0.246 per cent, copper 0.56 per cent, and sulphur 0.17 per cent. The arsenic content, which may be as much as 0.47 per cent, is an unfavourable factor.

The ore in spite of its high iron- and manganese content is a difficult one on account of contamination by other heavy metals and by arsenic. In consequence, large blocks are not mined, and only those works which are in the position to dilute the amount of arsenic by admixture with purer ores, can deal with it. Less than 0.1 per cent of arsenic is sufficient to produce a cold-short iron.

The production of Bieber has latterly been 40,000–60,000 tons per year. As to ore available, Einecke and Köhler estimate this at several million tons.

## THE UNITED STATES

### LITERATURE

E. C. HARDER. 'The Iron Ores of the Appalachian Region in Virginia,' Bull. 380, U.S. Geol. Survey, p. 215.—'Mineral Resources of the U.S. 1891,' Twenty Years' Progress in Iron and Steel Manufacture in the United States.—J. F. KEMP. The Ore Deposits of the United States and Canada, pp. 83-188, eighth impression, 1906.—H. RIES. Economic Geology with Special Reference to the United States. New York, 1910.—CHARLES L. HENNING. Die Erzlagerstätten der Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika mit Einschluss von Alaska, Cuba, Portorico, und den Philippinen. Stuttgart, 1911.

Metasomatic iron deposits, so far as known, are not very numerous

in the United States. There are, it is true, a large number of deposits in the formation of which metamorphic processes have taken part, yet cases of typical replacement of limestone by iron ore are very seldom met. It is fairly certain however that hitherto but a small proportion of the existing deposits of this class in America have become known, and also that these deposits have received little attention because purely metasomatic iron ores under American conditions are often too poor to render exploitation profitable.

### *The Appalachian Limonites*

Limonite deposits are found in the highly contorted sedimentary beds of the Appalachian mountains, which extend from northern Vermont to central Alabama. The foot-wall of this metalliferous series is formed by the old crystalline schists, and the hanging-wall by Coal-measures.

The deposits occur in limestone and dolomite, sandstone and quartzite, of all ages from Cambrian to Carboniferous.<sup>1</sup> The sandstones and quartzites generally form well-defined ridges, while the calcareous rocks lie in the valley.

The limestone when undecomposed contains small amounts of ferruginous minerals, namely, the sulphide, carbonate, and silicate of iron. From these, by subsequent leaching and concentration, the deposits known under the following names became formed :

- (a) Mountain ores.
- (b) Valley or Limestone ores.
- (c) Oriskany ores.

The Mountain ores are always found along the flanks or at the foot of a sandstone-, hornstone-, and quartzite belt. In Virginia they occur in two narrow zones, the first of which extends along the western slope of the Blue Ridge, from Front Royal in Warren County on the north, to a point 16 km. south of Roanoke County on the south. The second zone, which appears to be a continuation of the first, lies in the New River district in south-western Virginia.

These deposits occur in Lower Cambrian quartzite and in the fragmentary sediments upon it. They form small irregular unconnected beds, and are often associated with Tertiary clays, sands, and gravels. In relation to form, Harder divides the deposits into the following classes : (1) pocket deposits, which may be eluvial as well as fluvatile, and which may be replacement masses or angular fragments and pieces ; (2) beds in marl, which along veins and crevices have become replaced by ore ;

<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvanian series.

(3) beds in quartzite, which are either brecciated beds with contemporaneous replacement of the country-rock, or lodes.

The most important deposits consist of irregular bodies of 10-75 m. diameter; more characteristic however are the pocket-like masses illustrated in Fig. 377, which contain much manganiferous iron, the manganese being generally concentrated into bunches of psilomelane and pyrolusite. The ore may be light or dark in colour.

Genetically it is proved that such Mountain ore has resulted from the action of meteoric waters; the iron content in the limestone or marl above, and perhaps also partly that of the quartzite, after having been leached,

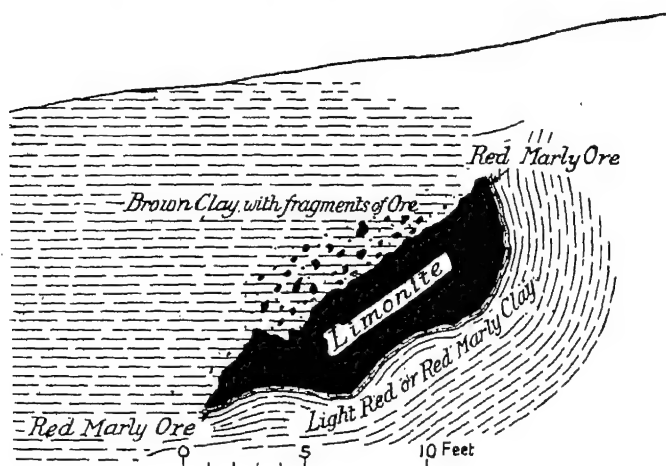


FIG. 377.—Mountain limonite occurring as an irregular mass in clay.  
Mary Creek mine near Vesuvius, Pa. Harder.

was deposited lower down, where more favourable conditions prevailed. The faults and fissures present, would favour such a migration of the iron content.

The Valley or Limestone ores are found, in larger or smaller porous masses closely associated with limestone, in the belt which bounds the Mountain ores to the west and north-west. Into these masses the limestone sometimes penetrates its craggy points.

These ores are often accompanied by clay; their quality is however in general better than that of the Mountain ores. They usually contain 40-55 per cent of iron, 5-20 per cent of silica, and 0.02-0.1 per cent of phosphorus, this last being somewhat less than with the Mountain ores. They likewise are unsuitable for the Bessemer process.

These deposits were formed by solutions descending through the

limestone, though, unlike the Mountain ores, these Limestone ores do not reach the quartzite under the limestone.

The Oriskany ores take their name from the Oriskany sandstone; they are replacements in the upper horizon of the Lewistown limestone. As may be gathered from Fig. 379, with comparatively large size they may extend to considerable depth. The iron content of the 5–10 m. deposit amounts to 35–50 per cent, with 3–4 per cent of manganese, 0.06–0.5 per cent of phosphorus, and 10–25 per cent of silica. The resemblance to the Mountain ores is considerable. The iron of the Oriskany ores comes from the overlying Devonian marls, the considerable iron content of which

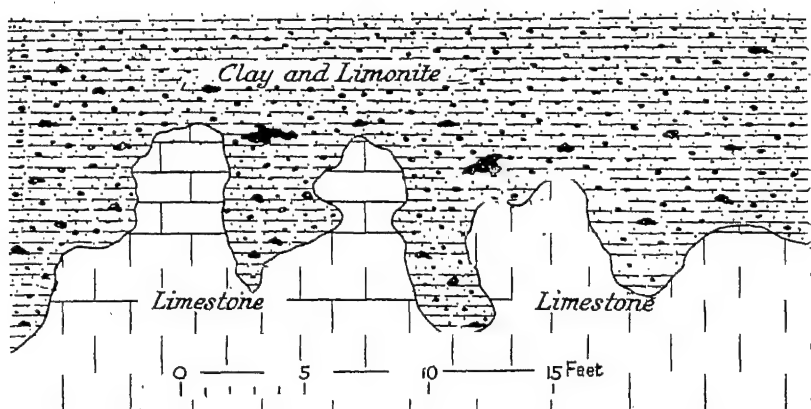


FIG. 378.—Structure of the Valley limonite deposits of the Rich Hill mine near Reed Island, Va. Harder.

filtered down through the Monterey sandstone to the Lewistown limestone beneath, which it replaced.

The genesis of the Appalachian limonites is consequently very similar to that of metasomatic deposits, such as those for instance which occur at Kamsdorf in Germany.

In the case of the Oriskany deposits metasomatism proper took place, while with the other two types subsequent fluvatile re-arrangement played a part.

The West Tennessee limonite deposits appear to be related to the Appalachian. They are found within a wide zone extending from the northern boundary of Alabama and Mississippi through the western boundary of Tennessee and Kentucky. The foot-wall consists of a hornstone-like Cretaceous limestone. In regard to their composition also, there exists a great similarity between the Tennessee and Appalachian

ores. The principal places of production are Russellville, Mannie, and Goodrich.

It is likely that a portion of the ores found in the Ozark uplift belong to this class, this uplift being the dome-like group of hills, almost 2000 m. in height, occupying the southern half of Missouri and a narrow strip

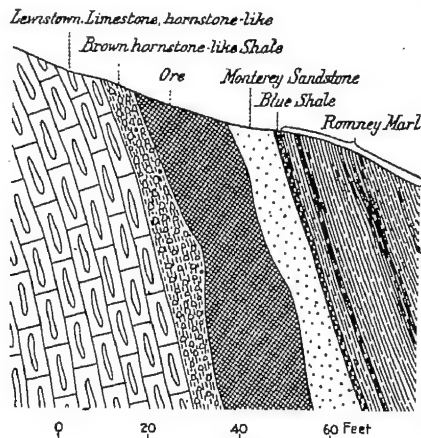


Fig. 379.—Oriskany limonite deposit at the Wilton mine near Glen Wilton, Pa. E. C. Harder.

along the northern boundary of Arkansas. The basement is formed of Archaean and Algonkian porphyry and granite, overlaid by Cambrian, Silurian and, in the south-west of the district, also by Lower Carboniferous.

The deposits occurring here in Carboniferous limestone are regarded as of metasomatic formation, their iron content having percolated from the Cambrian and Silurian beds into the Carboniferous limestone. These deposits do not appear to be of any great economic importance.

## THE MANGANESE LODS

As already stated,<sup>1</sup> and re-stated when discussing the sedimentation of the iron- and manganese deposits,<sup>2</sup> iron and manganese have chemically and geologically many properties in common, such for instance as the fact that the small amounts of both metals contained in the rocks go fairly readily into solution. Since however in the earth's crust iron occurs to about sixty times the extent of manganese,<sup>3</sup> deposits of manganese, and especially manganese lodes, are much more seldom than those of iron. This relation between the two metals finds expression in the figures of production;<sup>4</sup> while more than 140,000,000 tons of iron ore are produced yearly, approximately but 1,500,000 tons of manganese ore, together with a fairly considerable amount of iron-manganese ore, are marketed.

The most important manganese deposits are the bedded deposits which, in the Caucasus, South Russia, British India, and Brazil, together yield the preponderating portion, some 80-90 per cent, of the total production. Chiefly owing to the competition coming from such deposits, but also because of the stringent conditions as to purity of ore, manganese lodes are but seldom payable.

With regard to the genesis of manganese lodes, it is significant that in many cases it is not only a question of simple fissure-filling but at the same time of subordinate though often striking metasomatic alteration of the country-rock. In isolated cases the fissure-filling is quite insignificant and the deposit is only payable by reason of the concomitant metasomatism. It is evident therefore that the solutions which deposited the manganese were capable of powerfully attacking the country-rock.

At Elgersburg, in the north of the Thuringian Forest, a metasomatic alteration of quartz-porphyry, one of the most resistant rocks, may be observed, this alteration being so far advanced that only the porphyritic quartz individuals remain untouched. To the same complete extent are porphyrites also sometimes replaced.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 161.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 979.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 153.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 161.

In regard to the source of the manganiferous solutions, each case must be specially studied and considered. Small amounts of manganese are admittedly contained in most limestones and dolomites, in the form of the carbonate. At many places, therefore, there exists the possibility for the descending fissure- and ground waters to extract from such dolomite and limestone, not only the carbonates of iron, lime, etc., but also that of manganese. This of course could only take place provided that oxygen were not present or that it had already been elsewhere consumed, since otherwise the manganese would be very quickly precipitated from its solution as oxide.

From solutions charged with carbonic acid and under oxidizing conditions iron is precipitated before manganese; under neutral or reducing conditions, on the other hand, the two carbonates are precipitated simultaneously. Under these latter conditions the siderite lodes, which in general are remarkable for a fairly high manganese content, were formed. Since however the solutions only exceptionally contained much manganese and but little iron, large deposits of rhodochrosite poor in iron are exceedingly uncommon; they are found for instance, as is mentioned in the section dealing with bedded manganese deposits, in the Huelva district of southern Spain. Typical lodes with payable rhodochrosite have however not yet been observed.

In lodes formed under oxidizing conditions, iron oxide—and particularly specularite and hæmatite—is deposited separately from manganese oxide, the deposition of this latter taking place later than that of the iron oxide. In hand-specimens it may often be observed that iron ore or an impregnation with iron appears immediately next to the kernel of unaltered rock, while the manganese occurs farther away as an outside rind. A similar sequence may also be observed in lodes, where in many cases below the manganese a zone of iron ore is found.

Owing to the wide distribution of manganese in calcareous rocks, the opportunity to take up manganese is often afforded to such solutions as penetrate limestone. Silicate rocks also without exception carry some manganese, which by weathering or by the action of heated waters passes fairly readily into solution. The occurrence of manganese as dendrites upon the joints of even slightly decomposed rocks is extremely common.

A considerable number of manganese lodes, among which however not many are payable, occur in eruptive rocks, and preferably in such as are acid, namely, granite, quartz-porphyry, etc.; also often in gneiss.<sup>1</sup> Yet the basic rocks upon the whole are distinguished by higher contents of iron and manganese than the acid. The relation between the two metals is however to this extent disturbed, that the acid

<sup>1</sup> Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1906, pp. 231-233.



cks contain a relatively higher proportion of manganese to iron than do the basic. Solutions therefore arising from the decomposition of acid rocks will contain relatively more manganese than those coming from basic rocks. These considerations explain why manganese lodes occur more often in acid than in basic rocks.

The shape of a deposit is closely connected with the conditions of its genesis. With regard to manganese lodes it may be said that though normal lodes may often be seen, an irregular ramification of the rock is more frequent. Observations relative to the persistence in depth of the manganese lodes point to no great extension in that direction.

The distribution of the manganese in the lode is sometimes more, and sometimes less regular. In a payable lode, in any case, the mineralization must to some extent be continuous.

The minerals present in those manganese lodes which have been worked are not very varied, being in general limited to those of manganese and iron. This fact however is largely due to the stringent conditions laid by the market as to the quality of manganese ore. There are doubtless occasionally deposits where small amounts of sulphides are retained in the manganese; such as these, however, cannot for economic reasons be exploited.

The primary manganese minerals in lodes occur crystalline, the most common being manganite, braunite, hausmannite, and pyrolusite. Of these the last arises by alteration of the other three, so that pseudomorphs of pyrolusite after manganite, braunite, and hausmannite, are often seen.

Near the surface and as a result of the weathering of these primary rocks, compact amorphous manganese minerals such as psilomelane, representing the gelatinous combinations, are often formed; of the associated iron minerals, hematite is the most common.

Among the gangue-minerals barite is particularly characteristic, while calcite also is fairly common. The association of manganese with iron is not only noticeable in lodes but, as will be mentioned later, also in metasomatic manganese deposits. In addition to clean compact manganese ore which on account of the market conditions is the class of ore most sought, vuggy and brecciated ores also occur, while crusted ores are fairly uncommon.

The distribution of payable manganese lodes is limited to a few districts in Japan, Central France, and Germany, these last including the Harz, and Ilmenau-Elgersburg in Thuringian Forest.

The German manganese lodes are practically exhausted, while in all cases the production from lodes is small, the total output from this class of deposit representing but a fraction of the world's production.

The German production, including that from metasomatic deposits, is only about 300–400 tons yearly. The phosphorus content being below 0·05 per cent, the average value of this ore, owing to its good quality, is about £4 per ton.

## THE MANGANESE LODS IN THURINGIA

### LITERATURE

DR. CARL ZERRENNER. *Die Braunstein- oder Manganerzbergbaue in Deutschland, Frankreich und Spanien.* Freiberg, 1861.—K. v. FRITSCH. 'Geognostische Skizze der Umgegend von Ilmenau am Thüringer Walde,' *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1860, Vol. XII. pp. 97–155.—H. v. DECHEN. *Die nutzbaren Mineralien Deutschlands*, 2nd Ed., 1906.—E. ZIMMERMANN. Explanatory Text with the sections Ilmenau and Suhl of the geological map of Prussia, etc.

The Rotliegendes of the central Thuringian Forest is crossed in the neighbourhood of Ilmenau and Elgersburg by a large number of Hercynian faults which, particularly on the hill range, are collected together in separate groups. The direction in which they strike, coinciding with that of the faults which bound the range, suggests a Tertiary age for these subsidiary faults, which in greater part are filled with fragments of country-rock, and to a less extent with manganese ore. The three most important groups are those at Mittelberg near Arlesberg, Rumpelsberg near Elgersburg, and Oehrenstock near Ilmenau. Smaller groups are found at the Lütische, as well as at Oberhof, Klein-Schmalkalden, and many other places. With few exceptions the lodes at Mittelberg and Rumpelsberg occur in quartz-porphry, and those at Oehrenstock in porphyrite tuff.

A steep dip of 70°–90°, the absence of a defined parting on the hanging-wall, and a sharp separation between ore and country-rock on the foot-wall, characterize these manganese lodes as fissures along which large mountain masses falling through a small vertical distance, appear to have subsided. The hanging-wall limit to the lode is often hard to determine, there being a gradual passage from lode material to compact unbroken rock.

The Mittelberg group includes the occurrences on the Mittelberg, the Wüsttrummey, and the Himmelreichskopf, between the Jüchnitz and Zahmer Gera valleys. Quartz-porphry sheets belonging to different outflows constitute the country-rock; no influence upon mineralization of the change from one sheet to another has anywhere been observed. The principal lode, worked in the Volle Rose and Wilhelms Glück mines, may eventually be proved to be valuable for a considerable length; it reaches in places a width of 4 m. and even 9 metres. This lode, as well as its parallel and branch associates, consists of fragments of country-rock involved in a network of small metalliferous veins. Psilomelane, locally known as hard

manganese, is the principal ore, in comparison with which fibrous pyrolusite is subordinate. Barite is almost the only gangue-mineral. Veins of pure manganese ore occasionally reach as much as 0.40 m. in width. Sometimes even when the vein itself has only the thickness of a knife blade, the porphyry enclosing it is completely coloured black and in part altered to pay-

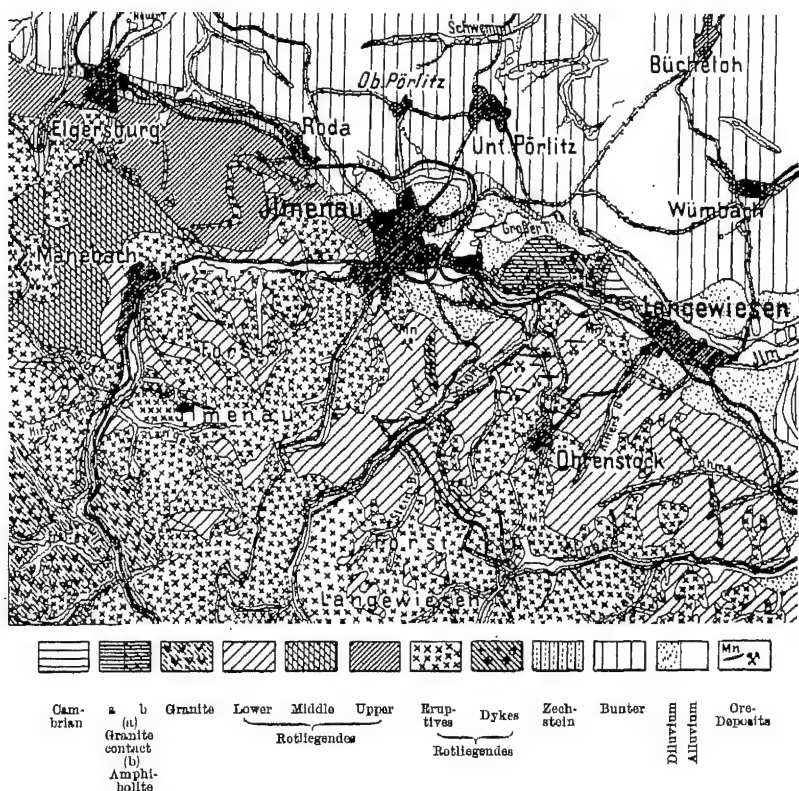


FIG. 380.—The manganese lodes of the Thuringian Forest near Oehrenstock. Scale 1:100,000. Geological Map of Prussia.

able hard manganese ore, the quartz individuals alone remaining unaltered.

The Rumpelsberg group extends chiefly along the Hohe Warte and the Schnittstein. In regard to the texture and condition of the country-rock, as well as to the small amount of gangue with the ore, this series resembles the Mittelberg group. The principal lode, worked in the Fortunatus and Hoffnungs mines, strikes east by south and dips  $70^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$  to the north. Its width is about 0.8–1.5 m., the separation from the country-rock being regular and definite on both walls. The lode-filling consists of fibrous pyrolusite which sometimes extends in separate seams along the

hanging-wall and foot-wall, and sometimes forms the cement of a breccia of angular fragments of porphyry.

To the Rumpelsberg group belongs also the important series which, beginning in the neighbourhood of the lower Stein valley, continues from Jüchnitzgrunde to the Hohe Warte. Upon this series the old mines Gottesgabe, Friedensfürst, and Altes Röderfeld, worked. Only in the lower Stein valley does the conglomerate of the Upper Rotliegendes become the country-rock, this rock consisting elsewhere of different, often spherulitic outflows of quartz-porphyry. Here also a brecciated filling is more common than the occurrence of normal veins of pyrolusite and psilomelane. In the Altes Röderfeld the lode width reached in places as much as 10 metres. Foot-wall veins often occur accompanied on either side by a deep red colouration of the porphyry, the width of this colouration increasing and decreasing with that of the vein. This can only be taken to indicate a saturation of the quartz-porphyry by ferruginous solutions proceeding from the vein fissures.

In the Oehrenstock group, as before mentioned, the country-rock consists of porphyrite tuff. In general the lodes here can only be followed for short lengths, the one exception being that worked in the mines Hüttenholz, Pingen, Luthersteufe, and Beschert Glück, this lode continuing metalliferous for a length of one kilometre. Calcite in the gangue is as characteristic as the occurrence of crystallized hausmannite, braunite, and radial and fibrous pyrolusite, though these minerals, it must be remarked, become less frequent in depth. The lodes in general strike south by east, though numerous branch and re-entering veins often conceal the real strike. They dip some  $70^{\circ}$  to the south. In the foot-wall the parting is well defined; upon this the 10–50 cm. of brecciated filling rests. With the manganese ores, limonite and hæmatite are occasionally associated, this being also the case in the more isolated occurrences at Oberhof and at the Kehltal fault; indeed, at the last-named place these two iron ores in depth completely replace the manganese.

The coincidence between the strike of these lodes and that of the boundary faults of the Thuringian Forest suggests that these lodes owe their existence to the same tectonic events which brought about the subsidence of the Thuringian fore-ground. They are accordingly probably of Tertiary age, while their filling probably began in Miocene time.

Concerning the source of the solutions from which the ore and gangue were deposited, the occasional decomposition or bleaching of the country-rock along the fissures, as well as the occurrence of manganese dendrites along the joint planes, have by some been quoted as due to lateral secretion or the leaching of the country-rock.<sup>1</sup> It must, however, be pointed out

<sup>1</sup> Zerrenner, *op. cit.* pp. 136, 157.

that in most cases there can be no question of extensive decomposition, while the continual change in country, which consists alternatively of porphyry, porphyrite tuff, and conglomerate, completely excludes this view.

The experience that these manganese lodes become poorer in depth—although in the principal lodes the limit to the mineralization has not yet been reached—and the analogy in geological position between these lodes and the manganese lodes at Ilfeld which are not nearly so deep, render it probable that they have received their filling from descending solutions. The circumstance also that in depth along the same fissure a passage from manganese ore to iron ore has in places been observed, favours such a view.

Most certainly the lodes are more numerous in the neighbourhood of the boundary faults and flexures, while impregnation of the beds with manganese in the neighbourhood of subsidences or following the peripheral distribution of the Zechstein is undeniable. At Louisental, the steeply-tilted Zechstein dolomite is altered at the flexure to loose copper-manganese ore; at the Kehlthal fault, sunken wedges of Zechstein dolomite are found altered to manganese ore; while on the Raubschloss and the Walsberg on both sides of the Wilde Gera valley, manganese occurrences associated with the Zechstein subsidence are known. The discovery of boulders of silicified Zechstein in an elevated position at Oberhof demonstrates, as do also the above-mentioned subsidences and the occurrence of Zechstein remnants at Scheibe near Rennsteig, that formerly the middle portion of the Thuringian Forest was completely covered by Zechstein.

The distribution of the Thuringian and Harz manganese lodes consequently appears to be genetically dependent upon a previous covering of Zechstein which became removed during post-Tertiary denudation.

## THE MANGANESE LODES AT ILFELD IN THE HARZ

### LITERATURE

W. HOLTZBERGER. 'Neues Vorkommen von Manganerzen bei Elbingerode am Harz,' Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg., 1859, No. 42, p. 383.—F. NAUMANN. 'Über die geotektonischen Verhältnisse des Melaphyrgbietes von Ilfeld,' Neues Jahrb. f. Min., Geogn. u. Geol., 1860, p. 1.—C. ZERBENNER. Die Braunstein- oder Manganerzbergbaue in Deutschland, Frankreich und Spanien. Freiberg, 1861.—H. v. DROHEN. Die nutzbaren Mineralien Deutschlands, 2nd Ed., 1906.—O. SCHILLING. Explanatory Text with the geological map of Prussia, etc., Section Nordhausen by E. Beyrich and H. Eck, 2nd Ed. p. 10, 1893.

The manganese lodes at Ilfeld occur in Rotliegendes beds unconformably overlying the Elbingerode grauwacke, and in turn unconformably overlaid by Zechstein. These Rotliegendes beds form an extensive complex wherein conglomerates alternate with sandy and clayey sediments,

and which includes sheets of melaphyre, porphyrite, and felsite-porphyre, some of which are of considerable thickness.

This complex may be divided into three sections, of which the lowest, formerly considered by E. Weiss as belonging to the Upper Carboniferous, is characterized by conglomerate of exclusively Hercynian origin. The middle section, formerly considered as the Lower Rotliegendes, contains the intercalated sheets of melaphyre and porphyrite, and otherwise consists of conglomerate and tuff-like rocks which, in addition to Hercynian material,

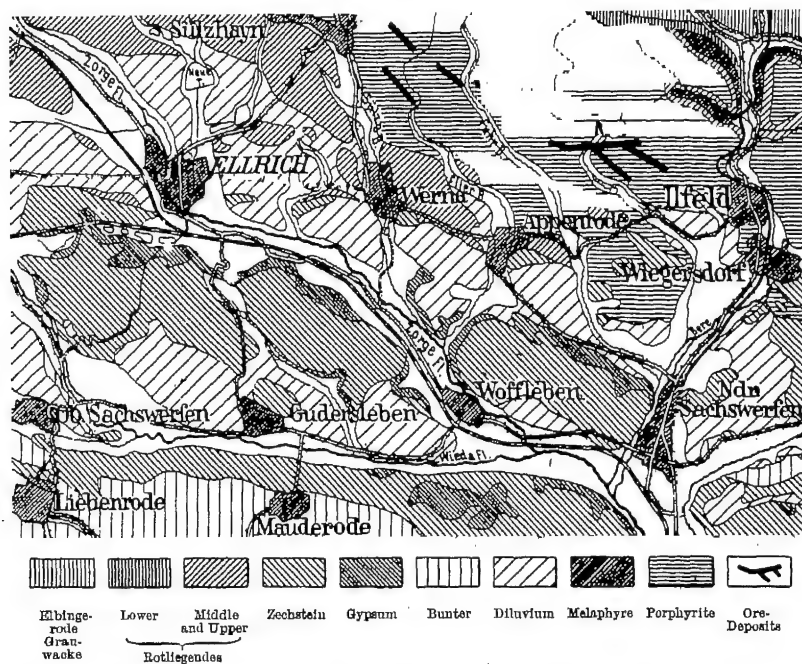


FIG. 381.—The manganese lodes at Ilfeld in the Harz. Scale 1:100,000. Survey by the Pr. Geol. Landesanst.

also include fragments of porphyrite and melaphyre. For the upper Rotliegendes only a narrow horizon is set apart, which, as in the other German districts, contains no eruptives.

In connection with the manganese lodes the porphyrites particularly are concerned, these being separated from a melaphyre below by sediments, while, in part at least, they are covered by slates, etc. Both these eruptives, as Naumann pointed out, are bedded occurrences. The porphyrites are distinguished by large segregations of felspar, by decomposed hornblende, and more seldom by specularite and garnet, in a compact, brown, reddish-

grey, or green coloured ground-mass, consisting presumably of the same constituents. This eruptive forms in the Ilfeld district an irregular confusion of steep and rocky hills.

Most of the iron- and manganese lodes are found within this occurrence of porphyry, to the west of the Behre. The manganese lodes vary from a few inches up to 2 feet in width; they strike from east by north to south-east, and dip generally  $60^{\circ}$ – $80^{\circ}$ . At the Mönchenberg near Ilfeld, the entire porphyry mass is traversed by manganese ore in such a manner that the whole is worked in a quarry-like open-cut. The depth to which these lodes reach is generally but 10–12 m. and exceptionally as much as 60 metres.

All the lodes are accompanied by subsidiary veins, the ore of which, generally without gangue, is fast attached to the country-rock. The ore is sometimes compact and sometimes crystalline. The crystals of manganite presented from this district to so many mineral collections occurred very extensively in the upper levels. The principal minerals are, manganite, pyrolusite, varvizite, braunite, hausmannite, psilomelane, and wad; while arite, subordinate felspar in part coloured by manganese, and, in the Ilberbach mine, rhodochrosite, are the principal gangue-minerals.

An important factor in regard to the genesis of these manganese lodes is the companionship of iron veins, which here attain a width of 1–2 m., so that approximately one-third of the filling consists of iron ore.

The separation from the country-rock is sharp. The red gouge on the walls is of use as a colouring material. When barite predominates the ore-filling is generally coarsely-crystalline. The iron ore, which in depth increases in amount, consists sometimes of pure, and sometimes of impure layer-haematite or of kidney ore, in either case intimately intergrown with barite. These mines are now regarded as exhausted.

The iron lodes may also occur in amygdaloidal melaphyre, in which the compact haematite, yellow and red jasper, are found.

Genetically there is much to suggest that the solutions to which the manganese- and iron lodes owe their existence were descending solutions, which probably derived their metalliferous content from the ferruginous rocks in the Zechstein and Rotliegendes.

## THE JAPANESE MANGANESE DEPOSITS

### LITERATURE

Mining in Japan, Past and Present. Published by the Bureau of Mines, 1909.

For a long time rich manganese deposits, the ore from which fetched good prices in the German market, have been known to exist in

Japan. Unfortunately however, as the technical descriptions were all in Japanese it has hitherto been almost impossible to get any exact information concerning these deposits. The appearance in English of the above-cited work wherein the principal Japanese deposits are described, is therefore all the more welcome. The position of these deposits is given in Fig. 310.

Manganese ores are among the most widely distributed of the useful minerals in Japan, being found in not less than forty-nine of the seventy-nine provinces.

These ores occur in deposits which according to their age may be divided into two main groups, namely, the Palæozoic or still older group; and the Tertiary or still younger group.

From the descriptions in the above-cited work it is not always clear whether the different deposits are epigenetic or syngenetic; in but few cases only is lode character distinctly stated, though, as will be shown below, in other cases it may be assumed that the ore-bodies occurring conformably with the strike and dip of the country, are epigenetic occurrences in connection with fissures. We therefore for the time consider it proper to consider the Japanese manganese deposits here, leaving future investigation to decide whether or not they should in reality be classed with the ore-beds.

The older deposits have the greatest distribution. They occur in gneiss, sericite-schist, quartzite, Radiolarian schist, schalstein, and clay-slate, generally of Palæozoic age. Whether or not some are of Mesozoic age cannot at present be determined.

Most of these deposits are irregular lenticular bodies with their greatest length approximately parallel to the bedding. In size they vary between wide limits; sometimes they are small pockets, sometimes large masses out of which 100 tons or more of clean ore may be obtained, while sometimes again they may even be large enough to sustain prolonged operations. The deposits are often accompanied by disturbed zones.

Usually the ore occurs exclusively in the oxidation zone, that is, above the ground-water level. In such case they are worked by open-cut or from small shafts. Mineralogically the ore consists of various mixtures of the oxides, psilomelane, pyrolusite, wad, etc.; more seldom manganite occurs in small prismatic crystals lining cavities in the ore, as on the islands Mutsu and Echigo; while not infrequently the psilomelane forms compact, radial or fibrous aggregates, as upon Ugo and Noto. In depth, rhodonite is often found with the oxides, from which fact Japanese investigators are inclined to assume that these latter represent the decomposition products of rhodonite and other manganese silicates.

At Toba in Shima the ore is occasionally associated with a light yellow phosphoric mineral found enveloping pieces of manganese ore, than which consequently it must be younger.



The younger manganese deposits occur in Tertiary and Quarternary rocks. Large deposits belonging to this group are found upon the islands Noto, Ugo, Mutsu, and Hokkaido. At Searashi in Noto irregular pieces from nut- to barrel size are found in a bleached green breccia-tuff. The ore is usually accompanied by jasper, this having probably resulted from concomitant silicification.

Along the coast at Koiiji in Sudzumizaki, Noto, isolated occurrences are found in a district which is probably underlaid by basalt.

At Fuku-ura, Mutsu, there is among others a 2-4 foot thick bed-like manganese deposit intercalated with Tertiary shales. In addition, between the ore-bodies concretionary masses are often found arranged almost parallel to the bedding. The metalliferous sections of the complex are bleached and in consequence known as *Shabontsuchi* or soap-clay, while the concretions are known as *Shabonkui* or soap-eaters. Here also the ore is associated with jasper, which is often found coated with manganese oxide.

At Owani in the southern portion of Mutsu, an approximately 3 foot wide manganese lode occurs in altered liparite, this rock on both sides of the lode being altered to soap-clay.

In the western portion of the island Hokkaido, mines are at work in the provinces Shiribeshi and Oshima. The Pirika mine in Shiribeshi lies approximately 8 miles north-west of Kunnui, a station on the Hakodate-Otaru railway. There the ore occurs in irregular masses, 1-3 feet in thickness, in a tuffaceous bed made up of sandstone, slate, and breccia, which strikes N. 70° E. and dips 75° north-west. In this the metalliferous horizon is underlaid by a coarse-grained hornblende-granite, and overlaid by a presumably diluvial gravel. In the last-named gravel, manganese ore also occurs in irregular layers. Since the ore encrusts boulders of granite and andesite as well as tree roots, it is evident that the deposit is a secondary and recent formation.

Japanese manganese ores contain :

	Per cent.	Per cent.
Manganese . . . . .	45-57, and generally	50-55
Iron . . . . .	1-5 " "	3
Silica . . . . .	1-21 " "	2-7
Sulphur . . . . .	Nil or traces	...
Phosphorus . . . . .	0.02-0.7, and generally	0.08-0.16
Copper . . . . .	Nil, traces, or very little	...
Water . . . . .	3-21, and generally	4-6

In addition to the occurrences which have been described there is another group concerning which, though the deposits present a bed-like arrangement of large and small ore-bodies, it is expressly stated

that the immediate country-rock is bleached and that boulders of a supposedly diluvial gravel are coated with manganese oxide.

In spite therefore of the bed-like form it is probable that the Japanese manganese deposits are epigenetic occurrences formed presumably by mineral solutions which saturated the rocks. The possible source of such solutions is not clear; in part they may have been meteoric waters percolating down through porous beds, and in part waters circulating in fissures. There are however some which are possibly true ore-beds.

The manganese ore production of Japan in 1907 was 20,327 long tons, made up of 874 tons from Shiribeshi, 3237 tons from Tamba, 2259 tons from Mutsu, 1671 tons from Bungo, and the remainder from seventeen smaller mining or prospecting districts. In 1908 the production fell to 10,890 tons, and in 1909 to 8708 tons, while in 1910 it rose again to 11,120 tons.

### THE METASOMATIC IRON-MANGANESE AND MANGANESE DEPOSITS

As already remarked when describing the metasomatic iron deposits, the passage between the ores of these two groups is very gradual, and in one and the same deposit sometimes limonite and sometimes manganese ore may be won. In consequence, the distribution of the metasomatic manganese deposits arising from the alteration of limestone and dolomite coincides in general with that of the similarly formed limonite deposits. As previously stated, iron-manganese deposits are such as contain 12-30 per cent of manganese in an iron ore. The occurrences in the Bingerbrück limestone belt and in the Lindener Mark near Giessen are therefore classed as such.

The genesis of these deposits is the same as that of the metasomatic limonite deposits. In addition, they too have often been disintegrated by meteoric or fissure waters, and their substance re-arranged and occasionally re-concentrated in fragmentary deposits by running water.

The form of the deposits when the replacement has been complete is bed-like, and when incomplete, irregular and pockety. The extension in depth is dependent upon the distribution of the limestone. The mineralization is seldom so regular as with the siderite- and limonite deposits.

Wherever the limestone contained clayey matter, this remained as residual clay. Such clay is often now so mixed with the ore that this latter as it comes from the mine must be washed.

The minerals present are the same as those with the analogous limonite deposits. The manganese is generally distributed as concretions or nodules

THE IRON-MANGANESE DEPOSITS ALONG THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF  
THE TAUNUS AND THE SOONWALD

(a) *Oberrossbach, Biebrich, and Bingerbrück*

LITERATURE

E. DIEFFENBACH. Geological Map of Hesse, Section Giessen, with explanatory text. Darmstadt, 1856, p. 21.—F. BAYSCHLAG. 'Die Manganeisenerzvorkommen der "Lindner Mark" bei Giessen in Oberhessen,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1898, p. 94.—C. CHELIUS. 'Eisen und Mangan im Grossherzogtum Hessen und deren wirtschaftliche Bedeutung,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1904, p. 356; 'Der Eisenerzbergbau in Oberhessen an Lahn, Dill und Sieg,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1904, p. 53.—R. DELKESKAMP. 'Die technisch nutzbaren Mineralien und Gesteine des Taunus und seiner nächsten Umgebung,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1903, p. 265.—W. VENATOR. 'Die Deckung des Bedarfs an Manganerzen,' Stahl und Eisen, 1906, p. 65.—P. KRUSCH. Die Untersuchung und Bewertung der Erzlagerstätten. Stuttgart, 1907.—JÜNGST. 'Die Manganeisenerzvorkommen der Grube Elisenhöhe, bei Bingerbrück,' Glückauf, 1907, p. 993.—BODIFÉ. 'Über die Genesis der Eisen- und Manganerzvorkommen bei Oberrossbach im Taunus,' Zeit. f. prakt. Geol., 1907, p. 309.—W. VENATOR. 'Zur Deckung des Bedarfs an Manganerzen,' Stahl und Eisen, 1908, p. 876.—EINCKE and KÖHLER. 'Die Eisenerzvorräte des Deutschen Reiches,' Archiv für Lagerstättenforschung, Part 1, K. pr. geol. Landesanst. Berlin, 1910.

Along this hill range which consists principally of quartzitic rocks, iron-manganese deposits occur chiefly at three places, namely, between Oberrossbach and Köppern, between Bingerbrück and Biebrich, and between Bingerbrück and Stromberg.

According to v. Reinach the deposits at Oberrossbach-Köppern are found in a subsidence running parallel to the Taunus in a south-west direction, in which subsidence a strip of contorted Middle Devonian limestone has dropped down between pre-Devonian and Devonian beds. Since however the surface is covered by Tertiary beds, the limestone never outcrops, and the tectonic connection between the sunken beds, the adjoining plateaus, and the two Tertiary coverings, is not apparent. Nor has this *Stringocephalus* limestone yet been exposed in all the mines.

Two types of ore-bed may be distinguished, namely, one lying immediately upon the limestone, as for example that occurring north of Oberrossbach; and a second intercalated between clay-slate and Tertiary beds, as for example that occurring at Köppern where no limestone has yet been met.

At Oberrossbach, where mining operations are still only upon a small scale, the dolomitized *Stringocephalus* limestone, which has so far been exposed for a length of one kilometre, dips on an average about 50° south-east. This limestone is irregularly fractured and forms the immediate foot-wall of the deposit, the hanging-wall of which consists of Tertiary sands and clays. The ore occurs in pockets, bunches, and valley-like

channels, along the crushed and steeply inclined boundary between limestone and slate, the intercalated slaty, clayey, and sandy layers being evidence of its transported character. The thickness of the deposits varies greatly; while along the channels this reaches 10–20 m., on the crests of the limestone the deposit is often entirely absent. The ore-bed

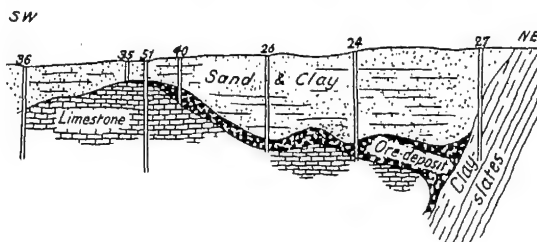


FIG. 382.—Transverse section of the manganese deposits north of Oberrossbach. Scale 1 : 2200. Einecke and Köhler.

consists of limonite with variable manganese content, and of pocket-like segregations of pyrolusite and psilomelane. The geological position is indicated in Fig. 382.

A second bed, having apparently no connection with limestone, occurs about 1 km. to the west. This is probably the westerly continuation of the steeply inclined portion of the eastern deposit. It has been opened up for a length of 300 m. and to a depth of 100 metres. It is distinguished

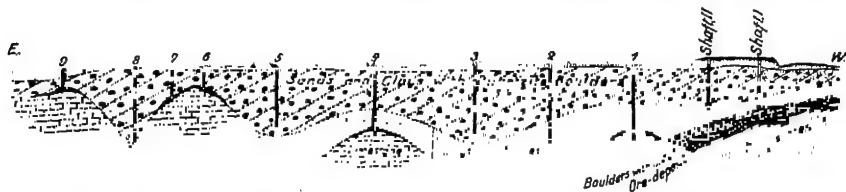


FIG. 383.—Transverse section of the manganese deposits south of Oberrossbach. Vertical scale 1 : 2500 ; horizontal scale 1 : 7500. Einecke and Köhler.

from the first occurrence by its thickness and pronounced bedding. In the hanging-wall the ore is earthy and usually mixed with quartzite pieces from the Tertiary and Diluvial country-rock. It is probable therefore that it is no primary deposit from solutions, but a fragmentary deposit of which the primary occurrence appears to have been of metasomatic origin. The fragments of slate and quartzite contained in it have been crushed and disintegrated, with the formation of clayey and sandy material around them; the gradation between such pieces and ore is gradual. The geological position of this deposit is illustrated in Fig. 383.

The deposit at Köppern along the southern border of the Taunus, lies upon quartzite, from which it is separated by disintegrated quartzite and clay, while in the hanging-wall it is covered by an alternation of clay and sandy beds. Here also the deposit is secondary, and high-grade concretions are scarce. The thickness on an average is 4 m. and the dip  $15^{\circ}$ , while the deposit has been opened up to a depth of 50 metres.

In the Biebrich-Bingerbrück district the deposits occur along the southern slope of the Rhine valley, from Biebrich to Bingen, where the Rhine reaches and breaks through the Taunus, at the subsidence there existing. In this situation, though payable in but few places, deposits are distributed over the entire quartzite ridge. Payable deposits have been known in the mines Hörkopf, Kons. Schlossberg-Dachsbau, Hollgarten, and Neudorf, of which however only Kons. Schlossberg is now working. The foot-wall of the deposit consists of quartzite, or sandstone and conglomerate resulting from the disintegration of the quartzite; between this and the ore there is occasionally a thickness of clay. The hanging-wall consists of a boulder clay 10–30 m. thick.

The size and number of deposits vary considerably. The average thickness is 2–3 metres. At the Kons. Schlossberg limonite occurs with psilomelane and pyrolusite, while at Hörkopf hematite is found. The deposits appear to be more manganiferous where ridges of quartzite protrude upwards from the foot-wall into the deposit, or even into the Tertiary hanging-wall.

The Stromberg-Bingerbrück deposits occur between these two places on the left bank of the Rhine. Here are found the mines Concordia at Stromberg, Amalienhöhe at Waldalgesheim, Elisenhöhe at Weilerwest, and the Bingerloch adit.

The geological position is similar to that which has been described in the previous cases. The deposit at Amalienhöhe, which has been explored for a depth of 115 m., pitches to the south-west and is both wide and long. While upon the 18 m. level the ore-body had a section  $60 \times 50$  m., on the 85 m. level the section increased to  $200 \times 120$  m., though the quality had deteriorated. Except for an exposure in a prospecting drive to the south on the 85 m. level, limestone has not been encountered here. The deposit contains clay, shale, quartz-breccia, boulders, and sand, and shows numerous clayey pressure surfaces. Without doubt therefore it has been accumulated by the mechanical agency of water.

In the Elisenhöhe mine the deposit lies on dolomite from whence it extends to the Tertiary beds above. It pitches to the north, the shape and content continually altering. At the adit level it had a section of 1600 sq. m.; on the 20 m. level, 6000 sq. m.; and on the 60 m. level, 4000 square metres. The ore is similar to that described in the other

deposits. As mined it contains 20 per cent of manganese, 30 per cent of iron, and 15 per cent of insoluble residue.

Genetically, all these deposits are connected with zones of disturbance, and in all probability the first stage in their formation was the replacement of Stringocephalus limestone by iron- and manganese solutions circulating through fissures. In the second stage the metasomatic bodies thus formed became disintegrated by water and then re-formed as fragmentary deposits chiefly in the neighbourhood of the original deposit, but also some distance therefrom.

The disturbances, which are met fairly often in these deposits, are the result of movement along faults in more recent time. While the age of the primary deposits is uncertain, the fragmentary deposits are probably Tertiary.

Einecke and Köhler estimate the ore available in the present known deposits of the three districts at 1,500,000 tons.

*(b) The Iron-Manganese Occurrence at Lindener Mark near Giessen*

This occurrence, the most important of this class in Germany, lies about half an hour's journey from Giessen. It is exploited in several large opencuts. The ore consists of an irregular bed of Middle Devonian Stringocephalus limestone covered by thick, light red to white clays supposedly of Tertiary age, and by fluviatile gravels. In but few places does this limestone preserve its original character; generally it has been altered to a ferruginous and mangiferous dolomite, while its surface has been so incised by running water that numerous pot-holes now exist.

In many places the boundary between payable loose ore and the foot-wall dolomite is not definite, while at other places where a light yellow dolomite occurs, there is a sharp separation; a crust of high-grade manganese ore, however, usually covers the irregular dolomite surface. Against the hanging-wall clay also, the outline of the ore-body is not well defined, this clay descending into irregular, pocket-like holes in the ore. The thickness varies greatly, reaching sometimes as much as 30 m., though on an average it is but 8 metres.

The quality of the ore also varies considerably; poor clayey masses of lens- or funnel shape occur in the deposit. The ore consists principally of loose limonite, in which patches of pyrolusite, polianite, wad, and manganite, occur. The average composition of the ore won is approximately 20 per cent of iron and 20 per cent of manganese, so that it is a typical iron-manganese ore. On the market it is known as Fernie ore after the name of the former owner of the mine.

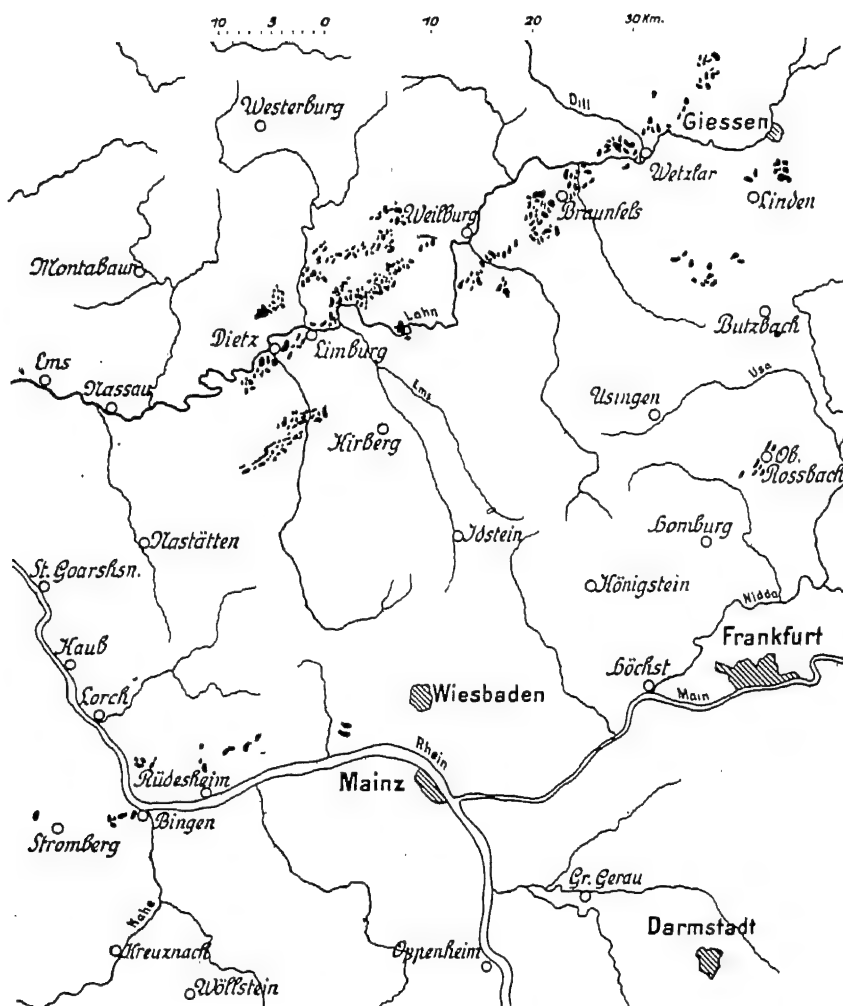


FIG. 384.—Map showing the position of the metasomatic limonite and iron-manganese deposits of the Taunus and the Soonwald.

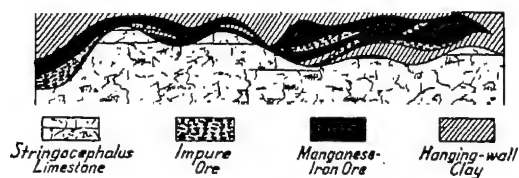


FIG. 385.—Transverse section of the manganese-iron deposits at the Lindener Mark near Giessen. Beyschlag.

Genetically, the occurrence in the first place resulted from the metasomatic replacement of *Stringocephalus* limestone, subsequently to which and probably in Tertiary time, it became in greater part disintegrated and finally re-assembled in the present fragmentary deposit.

The economic importance of the above-described occurrences in the Taunus district, including that at the Lindener Mark, may be gathered from the following figures. In 1910, ten mines at work produced 278,055 tons of ore, of which the average iron content was 23.5 per cent, the manganese content being variable. The average value of this ore was about eight shillings per ton, the whole of it being saleable. It is interesting to compare this figure with the total production of iron ore in Germany during the same year, which was 22,964,765 tons.



## THE COPPER LODES

COPPER lodes, in which sulphide copper ores occur almost exclusively, represent fissure-fillings similar to the lead-zinc-silver lodes. Of the gangue-minerals, quartz, sometimes accompanied by tourmaline, is the most frequent. In some cases calcite, at times associated with barite and fluorite, predominates, while only very exceptionally is this the case with the two latter minerals. With regard to gangue, a particular type of lode is represented by those in which, apart from quartz, siderite is by far the most characteristic mineral, forming as it then does a large part of the lode-filling.

Copper lodes frequently contain some galena and sphalerite; since however some of the lead-zinc lodes carry some copper in addition to silver, galena, and sphalerite, such lodes may be taken to represent gradations between these two types of lode. Beside those lead-zinc lodes wherein the copper content may be considerable, there are isolated districts where such lodes carry copper in particularly large amount. These constitute the cupriferous facies of the sulphide lead lodes, representative occurrences of which are found at Himmelfahrt and the Junge Hohe Birke, etc., near Freiberg;<sup>1</sup> at Oberschlema and Schneeberg in the Erzgebirge; and at Stolberg-Neudorf and Lauterberg in the Harz. The tetrahedrite lodes at Schwaz and Brixlegg in the Tyrol, and the silver-copper lodes at Cerro de Pasco in Peru,<sup>2</sup> constitute another special type.

Again, the gradations on the one side to the gold-silver lodes, and on the other to the tin lodes, are of great interest. For instance, the gold lodes at Altenberg in Silesia, to the north of the Bergmannstrost lode, carry copper to such an extent that prior to the discovery of their considerable gold content they were regarded as copper lodes. Furthermore, the copper-bearing tin lodes of Cornwall and the Herberton district, Australia, have long been famous. In these the occurrence of the copper is dependent

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 674.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 580.

upon the nature of the country-rock and upon the position relative to the primary zones, though even among the tin lodes proper others occur in which copper predominates.

Since however such gradations are only of small economic importance, the copper lodes proper may be regarded as a distinct, well-defined group of deposits in which a type containing clean copper ore may be distinguished from one of copper-bearing siderite.

Among the primary ores of this group chalcopyrite is the most important. This in most cases is accompanied in more or less large amount by pyrite and sometimes also by pyrrhotite. Only exceptionally, as at Telemarken in southern Norway, is pyrite completely absent; at that place, beside chalcopyrite the lodes carry only bornite or chalcocite. In the case of the very productive chalcopyrite-quartz lodes at Moonta in South Australia, the pyrite content, however, is low.

Chalcopyrite occurs secondarily in the cementation zone of deposits in which cupriferous pyrite constitutes the primary ore. In almost every case where the genesis of the deposit has been definitely determined, bornite and chalcocite are products of the cementation zone, though this fact does not exclude the possibility of both also occurring as primary ores. In each such case this question must be settled on its own merits. Vogt in this connection refers to the Aamadale mine in Telemarken,<sup>1</sup> where the surface has suffered extensive erosion from land ice. There the decomposition zone in consequence of this erosion is only about 1 m. in depth, below which follows a chalcopyrite-quartz zone which down to a depth of 150 m. carries neither pyrite nor bornite. Only at very great depth was bornite, intimately intergrown with chalcopyrite, found in the main lode, so that a secondary formation of bornite in this case appears to be excluded.

In many copper lodes the sulph-antimonides and sulph-arsenides are completely absent, or occur quite subordinately. Cases do however occur where such minerals are especially characteristic. Economically, the most important among these ores is the mineral enargite,  $\text{Cu}_3\text{AsS}_4$ , which at Butte, Montana,—the most important copper lode-district of the present day—represents not less than some 30 per cent of the minerals present; without doubt this occurrence is in greater part secondary. Enargite is also found in the copper lodes at Tintic in Utah; at the Morococha Lagoon in the Peruvian Cordilleras; in the silver-copper lodes at Cerro de Famatina in Argentina; in some of the deposits in Chili; at Mancayan in the Philippines; and at Bor in the east of Serbia. Bergeat and Beck in their text-books have placed these copper lodes characterized by containing enargite, in a class by themselves.

<sup>1</sup> *Postea*, p. 901.

Tetrahedrite is not uncommon in copper lodes, this mineral in fact being sometimes the most important of those present, as for instance in the occurrences at Schwaz and Brixlegg in the Tyrol, where it contains a little silver and occasionally also a little quicksilver. Similar deposits containing an argentiferous quicksilver-tetrahedrite with 35 per cent of copper, are found at Mascara and Kresevo in Bosnia; and with tennantite, though almost without silver, at Teniente in Chili. The other copper sulpho-salts are only interesting mineralogically, as are also selenium-copper, selenium-silver-copper, etc.

The various primary and secondary copper ores, together with their characteristics, have already been described when dealing with the ores of the different metals.<sup>1</sup>

The world's copper production in 1909, which was approximately 840,000 tons, was contributed to by the different ores as follows:

Native copper, from Michigan, United States, about 101,000 tons; Corocoro, Bolivia, about 2000 tons; or, including a small amount from other mines, in all about 12 per cent of the total production.

Carbonate-oxide ores are estimated to have yielded 150,000 tons, or 15-20 per cent.

Enargite alone is responsible for about three-tenths of the Butte production, or 40,000 tons; or, including some other deposits, in all about 5 per cent.

Tetrahedrite and other sulpho-salts are estimated to have produced at most 1-2 per cent.

Chalcopyrite, bornite, and chalcocite yielded together about 60-65 per cent. It may in fact be assumed with a fair amount of certainty that about one-half the copper produced comes from chalcopyrite and cupriferous pyrite.

Stibnite, arsenopyrite, and silver minerals, are found in most copper lodes in much the same subordinate amount as galena and sphalerite. The matte obtained upon smelting, apart from a few unimportant occurrences, usually therefore contains small amounts of lead, zinc, antimony, arsenic, etc.

Some silver also is invariably present. Even where silver minerals themselves are completely absent, furnace copper seldom contains less than 0.025 per cent of silver as well as a small amount of gold. This low precious-metal content is derived in greater part from the sulphide copper ores, chalcopyrite, bornite, and chalcocite. The gold, together with a small portion of the silver, comes perhaps from pyrite. The silver content frequently reaches 0.1 per cent or more, the Bessemer copper from the Butte district—which is subsequently refined by electrolysis—containing

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 89-92, 198-201.

or instance an average of 0.23–0.24 per cent, in addition to 0.0008 per cent of gold. This relatively large amount is however an exception. Similarly, copper matte almost invariably contains some nickel and cobalt, though in 100 parts of copper there are as a rule only about 0.2 parts of nickel-cobalt.

Leaving iron out of consideration, the metals in the copper lodes are found in approximately the same relative quantities as in the intrusive pyrite deposits.<sup>1</sup> In this connection it is particularly noteworthy that both types of deposit exhibit almost the same proportions of copper to silver and of copper to nickel-cobalt.

Apart from the association of copper with tin in Cornwall and in the Kerberton district, tin is almost completely absent from copper lodes. Exceptionally, it is found in the lodes at Katharinaberg, south of Sayda in the Bohemian-Erzgebirge, not far from the tin lodes of that district; and at Boccheggiano in Tuscany.<sup>2</sup>

Of the gangue-minerals, quartz generally predominates in most copper lodes. It is frequently accompanied by some calcite, while barite and fluorite are absent or occur subordinately.

The presence of tourmaline—probably connected with a tourmalinization of the country-rock—remarked by A. von Groddeck, 1887, and A. W. Stelzner, 1897, in connection with some copper lodes in Chili, is important. This mineral has also been found at Svartdal in Telemarken, Norway; at Copper Mountain in British Columbia;<sup>3</sup> in the Blue Mountains;<sup>4</sup> at Sonora, Mexico;<sup>5</sup> in the Knisib Valley, German South-West Africa;<sup>6</sup> and in some small lodes at Monte Mulatto near Predazzo in the southern Tyrol.<sup>7</sup> In some of these lodes molybdenite, scheelite, and wolframite, also occur, while cassiterite is absent; in others the gold content is so considerable that such lodes may be taken to represent gradations to the tourmaline-bearing gold lodes.

It would appear that a fair number of these tourmaline-bearing quartz-copper lodes occur in association with acid or intermediate eruptive rocks, such as granite, quartz-monzonite, quartz-diorite, etc. They therefore in many respects resemble the tin lodes associated with granite, and especially the tin-copper lodes of Cornwall, from which however they are distinguished by the complete absence of cassiterite. Several of

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 163, 302.

<sup>2</sup> *Postea*, p. 911.

<sup>3</sup> Catherinet, *Eng. Min. Journ.*, 1905, Vol. LXXIX, p. 125-127.

<sup>4</sup> W. Lindgren, XXII. *Ann. Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey*, 1900-1901, II. p. 629.

<sup>5</sup> W. H. Weed, *Trans. Amer. Ins. Min. Eng.* XXXII., 1902.

<sup>6</sup> R. Scheibe, *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1888, Vol. XL, p. 200.

<sup>7</sup> A. Hofmann, *Sitzungsber. d. böhm. Ges. d. Wiss.*, Prague, 1903; O. Stutzer, 'Über turmalinführende Kobalterzgänge von Mina Blanca in Chili,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1906, p. 294; and K. A. Redlich, 'Turmalin auf Erzlagerstätten' in Tschermak's *Min. Petr. Mitt.* XXII., 1903.

the quartz-copper lodes of Telemarken, occurring in granite, carry potash-mica along the walls, this occurrence being similar to that of zinnwaldite in some tin lodes.<sup>1</sup> These lodes contain in addition some fluorite, while the granite immediately along the lode fissure is altered to a greisen-like rock.<sup>2</sup>

For these reasons, therefore, Vogt<sup>3</sup> described such copper lodes as 'tin lodes with copper in the place of tin.' This analogy to tin lodes however is, even with lodes in granite, only observable in exceptional cases, it being actually the case that the most important copper lodes in granite—such as those at Butte where the granite or quartz-monzonite contains 64 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ —display no traces of a greisen formation.

The crusted structure so frequently met in other lodes is seldom found in copper lodes. In many cases the structure has been rendered complex by the repeated opening of the lode fissure and the consequent re-entry of mineral solutions.

#### THE RELATION OF COPPER LODES TO ERUPTIVE ROCKS

A differentiation is made between :

(a) The tin-copper lodes of the Cornwall type, genetically associated with granite.<sup>4</sup>

(b) The quartz-copper lodes characterized by tourmaline and the formation of greisen, and occurring partly within and partly in the immediate neighbourhood of acid or intermediate eruptive rocks, with which, as will be indicated in the description of the occurrences in Chili and Telemarken, they are likewise genetically associated.

(c) The quartz-copper lodes not characterized by the presence of tourmaline, yet occurring in principally acid or moderately acid eruptives. To these among others belong the lodes of Butte, Montana, occurring in quartz-monzonite; many lodes in Chili, principally in acid and intermediate rocks; those of Ashio, in liparite, and a large number of other Japanese copper lodes, in acid or intermediate rocks; the deposits of Moonta in South Australia, in quartz-porphyry; and the occurrences in Shasta County north of Redding in California, in presumably Triassic alaskite-porphyry.<sup>5</sup> In addition to these more important occurrences the following copper lodes occurring in principally acid or moderately acid eruptive areas are worthy of mention: those in the Robinson District,

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, Fig. 263.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1887.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, Figs. 145, 263.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, pp. 431-436.

<sup>5</sup> Ries, *Econ. Geol. of U.S.*, 1910, p. 419; Diller, *U.S. Geol. Surv.*, Bull. 213, 1903, and 225, 1904.

Nevada, in a moderately acid porphyry;<sup>1</sup> lodes and impregnations in granite, Llano County, Texas;<sup>2</sup> auriferous copper lodes in gneiss-granite and quartz-porphyry, Gilpin County, Colorado;<sup>3</sup> many copper lodes in the neighbourhood of Sherbrooke in Quebec, in the vicinity of schistose porphyritic andesite;<sup>4</sup> and those at Tilt Cove, Newfoundland, in a mica- and quartz-bearing propylitized porphyrite.<sup>5</sup>

Similar occurrences in Mexico have been described by J. G. Aguilera,<sup>6</sup> who emphasizes the fact that these occur mostly in Tertiary rocks, partly acid, such as granite and rhyolite, and partly intermediate, such as quartz-diorite, andesite, etc.; but not in basic eruptives.

Similar quartz lodes containing chalcopyrite, pyrite, etc., occur at Cobre on the island of Cuba, in volcanic breccias and lavas; on the island of Haiti, in diorite dykes and in the contact aureole of such dykes and others of andesite, and in melaphyre.<sup>7</sup>

Among the copper deposits in New South Wales, according to J. E. Carne,<sup>8</sup> five occur in granite, five in porphyry, nine in andesite, and seven in and near serpentine. Most of the occurrences however, and among them the important one at Cobar, occur in slate belonging chiefly to the Silurian.

Quartz lodes with bornite, chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, etc., occurring in granite penetrated by dykes of olivine-diabase, are found at the Albert Silver mine, 50 miles north-east of Pretoria in the Transvaal.<sup>9</sup> Similar lodes are known in quartz-porphyry at Tschudack in the Altai;<sup>10</sup> and in diabase at the Sünik mines at Katar in Trans-Caucasia.<sup>11</sup> The analogous occurrence at Kedabek is described a little further on.

Copper lodes, containing among other minerals enargite and covellite, occur at several places near Bor in eastern Serbia, and are associated with kaolinized or propylitized andesite.<sup>12</sup> Those at Imsbach in the Rhenish Palatinate occur in quartz-porphyry and melaphyre.<sup>13</sup>

Many other copper lodes so situated might be enumerated.

(d) The contact copper deposits of which, as already mentioned,<sup>14</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A. C. Lawson, 'The Copper Deposits of the Robinson Mining District, Nevada,' *University of California, Bull. of Geol.*, 1906, Vol. IV. No. 14.

<sup>2</sup> J. F. Kemp, *Ore Deposits of U.S.*, 1900, p. 204.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 203.

<sup>4</sup> J. A. Dresser, 'Copper Deposits of the Eastern Townships of Canada,' *Econ. Geol.* I., 1906, pp. 445-453.

<sup>5</sup> Bergeat, *loc. cit.* p. 823.

<sup>6</sup> *Trans. Am. Inst. Min. Eng.*, 1902, XXXII. pp. 510-512.

<sup>7</sup> H. H. Thomas and D. A. MacAlister, *Geology of Ore Deposits*, 1909, p. 168.

<sup>8</sup> *The Copper-Mining Industry of New South Wales*, Sydney, 1899.

<sup>9</sup> F. W. Voit, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1908, p. 137.

<sup>10</sup> B. v. Cotta, *Berg- u. Hüttenm. Zeit.*, 1870, XXIX. No. 7, p. 29.

<sup>11</sup> K. Ermisch, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 88.

<sup>12</sup> F. Cornu and M. Lazarevič, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1908, p. 153.

<sup>13</sup> O. Krauth, see Beck, 1909, p. 334.

<sup>14</sup> *Ante*, pp. 354, 396-398.

there are a large number, among them being many of great economic importance.

Within one and the same district, true contact occurrences containing copper with garnet, augite, scapolite, wollastonite, etc., are very frequently associated with ordinary copper lodes. Examples of such combined contact- and lode occurrences have been recorded at Bingham Canon in Utah; in the Clifton-Morenci district, Arizona;<sup>1</sup> at Cananea in Mexico near the boundary with Arizona;<sup>2</sup> and at Concepcion del Oro in Zacatecas, Mexico. All these occurrences are of considerable importance, and in all of them both types of deposit appear to be intimately associated with each other. Moreover, according to Bergeat, Boutwell, Emmons, Lindgren, Weed, and others, both were formed during the waning phases of eruptive activity, though according to Boutwell the lodes at Bingham may be somewhat younger than the contact occurrences, which, according to Emmons, is also the case at Cananea.

The native-copper deposits associated with basic volcanic flows, occurring at Lake Superior, are treated in a special chapter.<sup>3</sup>

(e) Finally, many admittedly mostly small occurrences of sulphide copper ores, with a frequently high metal content, in serpentine and its associated eruptive rocks.

To these belong the deposits at Monte Catini in Tuscany and Liguria;<sup>4</sup> that at Riparbella in Tuscany, described by R. Delkeskamp;<sup>5</sup> the deposits at Rebelj and Wis in serpentine, in north-west Serbia;<sup>6</sup> and those at Kemenica in Bosnia, also in serpentine.<sup>7</sup> Delkeskamp mentions in addition some apparently similar occurrences, as for instance the well-known deposit at Arghana Maden in Asia Minor, and several in the north of Corsica. To this class also belongs the small pocket-like deposit of bornite and chalcopyrite in serpentine, at Hatfjeldalen in Norway.

A numerical statement of the various types of copper deposit shows that by far the greater number of these occur in association with eruptive rocks, and that bed-like occurrences, such as the copper-shale in the Zechstein of Germany, the pyrite bed at Rammelsberg near Goslar, and the Permian copper-sandstone, are exceptions.

The copper lodes proper and those connected with contact-metamorphic occurrences—these two types together yielding considerably more than one-half of the total copper production—upon examination show themselves in the majority of cases to be associated with eruptive rocks or eruptive periods. The magmatic-intrusive pyrite deposits<sup>8</sup> are con-

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 396.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 398.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 928.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, pp. 300-301.

<sup>5</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1907.

<sup>6</sup> R. Beck and W. v. Firoks, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1901.

<sup>7</sup> Fr. Katzer, *Leobener Berg- u. Hüttenm. Jahrb.*, 1905, Vol. LIII. Part 3.

<sup>8</sup> *Ante*, pp. 301-337.

nected with basic plutonic rocks. The well-known occurrences in the Lake Superior district are found in close association with basic volcanic rocks, though with these the controlling chemical-geological processes were entirely different.

From the nature of the last-mentioned occurrences many investigators came to the conclusion that the copper lodes also were genetically connected principally with basic eruptives. This conclusion is indeed true in the case of the afore-mentioned unimportant occurrence in serpentine at Monte Catini, and a number of unimportant lodes scattered all over the world in gabbro-diorite, diabase, etc. The greater number of copper deposits occurring within or in the immediate neighbourhood of eruptive rocks—and among them the most important economic deposits—are however closely connected with acid and intermediate eruptives, such as granite, quartz-monzonite, grano-diorite or quartz-diorite, quartz-porphry, liparite, andesite, etc. Such is the case at Butte, Bingham, Clifton-Morenci, Bisbee, Cananea, Chili, Japan, Moonta, etc.

According to Möricke, in Chili it is principally the quartz and quartz-tourmaline-copper lodes which are associated with acid or intermediate eruptive rocks, while the lodes carrying a preponderating amount of calcite and some barite are usually connected with more basic rocks. It cannot however yet be said that this holds good in general.

The geological significance of the bedded copper lodes appears particularly difficult to determine, since these are related to the intrusive and other pyrite deposits, not only morphologically but often also by their high content of pyrite and pyrrhotite. The occurrence at Ducktown in Tennessee, for instance, is regarded by American authorities as a fissure vein connected with replacement. Vogt, however, from descriptions considers that this occurrence is probably an intrusive magmatic deposit. According to this authority also, the large pyrite deposits at Mount Lyell in Tasmania may be similarly regarded.

It would appear likely therefore that many occurrences formerly regarded as formed by heated waters belong to the intrusive deposits. Doubtless however there are bedded copper lodes which have been formed by heated waters, and which must be reckoned with the lodes.

#### THE AGE OF COPPER LODES

Many copper lodes, being associated with the extensive Tertiary eruptive or at times late Cretaceous eruptive activity, are comparatively young. Among these are the following :

- Butte in Montana : Tertiary, probably early Tertiary ;
- Bingham in Utah : late Mesozoic or early Tertiary ;



Clifton-Morenci, Bisbee, and others in Arizona, Cananea in Mexico near the boundary with Arizona: late Cretaceous or early Tertiary, these deposits being combined contact- and lode occurrences.

Several other important lodes in Mexico; most of the occurrences in Chili; and most of the lodes in Japan, these latter occurring in Tertiary liparite, andesite, etc. The Japanese pyrite deposits, on the other hand, as for instance those occurring at Besshi, etc., are probably of greater age.

Massa Marittima, etc., in Tuscany: Tertiary, namely, Eocene to perhaps Upper Miocene.

Kedabek in the Caucasus: possibly Tertiary.

Bor in Serbia, Cobre on the island of Cuba, Boleo in Mexico, etc., are also young.

Of the world's copper production, which in 1909 amounted to 840,000 tons, at least 400,000 tons, or about one-half, came from Tertiary and late Cretaceous deposits. The young eruptive epochs are therefore exceedingly important not only for silver, gold, and quicksilver, as has already been demonstrated, but also for copper.

A large number of lodes, such as those in Cornwall, the Urals, Mitterberg, Telemarken, etc., are on the other hand of considerably greater age. Concerning the non-lode-like copper deposits, the intrusive pyrite deposits are mostly exclusively Palæozoic; the Lake Superior deposits, Cambrian-Algonkian; and the German copper-shale, Permian, etc., that is to say, they are of greater geological age.

#### THE CLASSIFICATION OF COPPER LODES

Both Beck and Bergeat in their text-books, conforming to the views of the Freiberg school, classify the copper lodes according to the characteristic ore- and gangue-minerals. Both these authorities place the native-copper deposits of Lake Superior among the copper lodes. These deposits however differ so much both mineralogically and geologically from ordinary lodes that in this work they are treated as an independent class. In this work also, the controlling factor in the classification of copper lodes has not been the mineral-association in any particular deposit, but rather the sum of the general characteristics of that deposit.

Following this idea—though in many cases detailed description is lacking—the following classification, admittedly capable of improvement in many respects, may be formulated:

(1) Copper-tin lodes, regarded geologically as a facies of the tin lodes, associated with granite, *e.g.* lodes in Cornwall; at Herberton in Queensland; and others long exhausted in the Erzgebirge, Saxony.

(2) Quartz-copper lodes containing tourmaline, in part also containing other minerals characteristic of tin lodes, associated with granite and other acid and intermediate eruptive rocks, *e.g.* Telemarken, Norway.

(3) Quartz-copper lodes without tourmaline but often containing some calcite, etc. :

(a) within, or in contact with principally acid or intermediate eruptive rocks, *e.g.* Butte, Montana ; Moonta, South Australia ; Japan, etc. ; more rarely in basic eruptives ;

(b) in slates, without any apparent association with eruptive rocks.

(4) Copper lodes within, or in contact with principally acid or intermediate eruptive rocks and in association with contact-deposits, *e.g.* Telemarken, Norway.

(5) Copper lodes in association with metasomatic deposits, the latter principally in limestones, *e.g.* Massa Marittima in Tuscany, Otavi.

(6) Copper lodes with preponderating carbonates, including calcite, dolomite, siderite, and some quartz, barite, etc. :

(a) in basic eruptive rocks, *e.g.* many occurrences in Chili ;

(b) in slates, sometimes chiefly with siderite, *e.g.* occurrences in Siegerland.

(7) Copper lodes, masses, pockets, etc., in serpentine rocks ; so far, economically speaking, not particularly important, *e.g.* Monte Catini, Tuscany.

(8) Bedded lodes in crystalline schists, *e.g.* Mitterberg in Salzburg, Aamdal in Norway.

The present-day economically most important copper lodes belong more particularly to classes 2, 3a, and 4.

### THE GENESIS OF COPPER LODES

The alteration of the country-rock along the lode fissure, as descriptions of occurrences in Telemarken, Chili, at Butte and Massa Marittima, indicate, may in different districts take very various form. This alteration is due to hydrothermal processes and is dependent chiefly upon the composition of the circulating solution.

The hydrothermal character of the lodes is expressed beyond question in the mineral-association and the alteration of the country-rock. In the case of many copper lodes associated with eruptive rocks—in Cornwall, Telemarken, at Butte, Clifton-Morenci, Bisbee, Cananea, etc., for instance—it may be proved that their formation took place during the last stages of the eruption. From similar considerations to those put forward when discussing the tin lodes<sup>1</sup> and the young gold-silver lodes,<sup>2</sup> the

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 418-423.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 534.

conclusion may be drawn also for copper lodes associated with eruptive epochs, that the ore was derived from the particular magma.

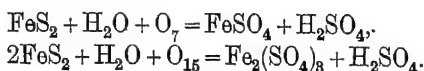
With lodes occurring in slate and having no apparent connection with eruptive epochs the source of the metal is indeterminate. Most of these lodes however were probably formed similarly to those at Butte, Clifton-Morenci, etc., though any generalization to that effect should be guarded against.

With regard to the formation of the copper deposits associated with serpentine, such as those at Monte Catini, Rebelj in Serbia, etc., geologists still hold very varied opinions. Lotti considers the deposit at Monte Catini and similar deposits in Tuscany and Liguria to be the products of magmatic differentiation,<sup>1</sup> while Beck and v. Fircks, Katzer, Delkeskamp, and others, on the other hand, consider them to be of secondary formation. In this connection Beck and v. Fircks<sup>2</sup> express themselves as follows: 'The copper belongs primarily to the serpentinized eruptive rocks. It however probably no longer exists in its original condition, the ore-bodies now found being the results of concentration which took place during the complete chemical alteration of the original olivine rock.'

#### PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DEPTH-ZONES IN COPPER DEPOSITS

As previously mentioned, secondary alterations of sulphide copper deposits of every genesis take various form in different districts.<sup>3</sup> In some districts, as for instance Butte in Montana and Huelva in Spain, the copper content at the outcrop has been practically completely removed.<sup>4</sup> In other districts such as Burra-Burra, Moonta, and Wallaroo, in South Australia; Bisbee and Clifton-Morenci in Arizona; at many places in Chili, at Mednorudiansk in the Urals, and at Katanga in the Congo district, on the other hand, particularly large quantities of secondary copper ores are found at the outcrop, close to the surface. At Burra-Burra, for instance, astonishingly rich carbonate and oxide ores were found near the surface, though in depth no payable sulphide ores existed.

The complete removal of the copper from the oxidation zone is connected on the one hand undoubtedly with the occurrence of much pyrite, which upon weathering yields the necessary acid, and on the other with the absence of carbonates to neutralize this acid. Sulphuric acid becomes formed as the final product of the oxidation of  $\text{FeS}_2$ , the reactions being as follows:



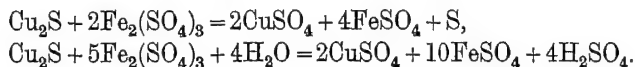
<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 301.

<sup>2</sup> *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1901, p. 322.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 216.

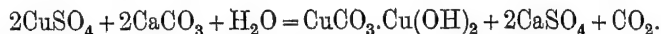
<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 321; *postlea*, p. 886.

Chalcopyrite, bornite, and chalcocite, by oxidation are in part altered directly to sulphates, and in part dissolved by the ferric sulphate formed at the decomposition of the pyrite, thus :



In the process of this oxidation ferric oxide or hydrate are formed either directly or indirectly, to an extent dependent upon the amount of iron sulphide present.

Chalcopyrite<sup>1</sup> by itself does not upon complete oxidation yield sufficient sulphuric acid to form  $\text{CuSO}_4$  and  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ , this being also the case with bornite and chalcocite. Generally speaking, therefore, complete removal of the copper content is not found where sulphide copper ores occur without, or with only a small admixture of pyrite and pyrrhotite. The occurrence of limestone at the outcrop—as for instance with many contact-deposits and with some lodes—or of calcite or other carbonates in the gangue, would neutralize the acid formed and the carbonate and oxide of copper, etc., would be precipitated, thus :



The most widely distributed of the secondary minerals is malachite, with which mineral, azurite, cuprite, native copper, chrysocolla, atacamite, chalcantite, brochantite, tenorite, some phosphates, arsenates, etc., are found associated.

The conditions under which native copper is formed have already been discussed.<sup>2</sup> The subject is however again taken up a little later when describing the Lake Superior deposits.<sup>3</sup>

Atacamite,  $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 3\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$ , is found in large quantities in the oxidation zone not only in Atacama in Chili, where it occurs to a depth of some 100 m., but also in South Australia. Chalcantite and brochantite have also been encountered in large amount in Chili, in such places as have a low rainfall.

In addition to copper deposits associated with limestone or calcite, oxidation ores also occur to a large extent where lime could not have had a neutralizing effect, as for instance in friable sandstones and slates, when originally sulphide copper ores were associated with relatively little iron sulphide. In such cases the friable nature of the country-rock and a dry climate appear to have been the principal factors.

The reason that in some districts free from lime the copper content has been practically completely removed, while in others likewise free the

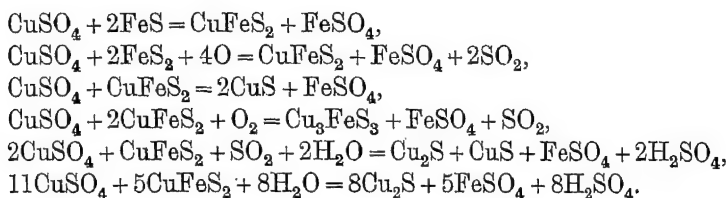
<sup>1</sup> Cu : Fe : 2S.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 139-140.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 928.

copper content has been collected to form rich oxidation ores, has not yet been satisfactorily determined.

In the case of large occurrences and where rapid erosion has not taken place, oxidation ores reach to a depth of 10–100 m.; in Arizona even to 200 metres. As already pointed out,<sup>1</sup> their extent is dependent principally upon the position of the ground-water level, but also upon other factors. In many districts, immediately under the oxidation zone a very rich cementation zone is met, the copper content of which was derived from descending solutions, according to reactions expressed in the following equations :



The demarcation between the oxidation and cementation zones is often strikingly sharp, as for instance at Huelva,<sup>2</sup> Butte, and Ducktown.<sup>3</sup> At Butte, the rich cementation zone extends to a depth of some hundred metres below the oxidation zone, while in other deposits, as for instance at Ducktown, its extent is limited to a few metres.

In consequence of the discontinuance of cementation ores in depth, many mines working lodes containing sulphide copper ores have become considerably poorer in depth. Such variations in content, before the secondary depth-zones became appreciated, were regarded as primary depth-zones.

The deepest copper lode-mines yet known are those at Butte and Moonta in South Australia with depths of about 900 m. and 800 m. respectively; and some in Chili 600–800 metres deep. In the case of the two first-mentioned the copper content in depth has considerably decreased, though to what extent this must be attributed to the cessation of cementation ores cannot be gathered from existing descriptions of the occurrences.

In Cornwall,<sup>4</sup> a primary depth-zone occurs, in so far that copper ores in depth are replaced by cassiterite. In the silver-copper lodes at Cerro de Pasco in Peru, the silver content diminishes in depth while that of the copper increases.<sup>5</sup>

The copper lodes at Dobschau in Hungary are also remarkable, in that beneath a siderite zone, chalcopyrite, and tetrahedrite occur, and beneath this again another primary zone containing cobalt and nickel.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 213.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 10, 321.

<sup>3</sup> *Postea*, p. 889.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 434.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, p. 580.

<sup>6</sup> *Ante*, p. 807; *postea*, p. 903.

The distribution of the copper upon the lode plane in the primary zone though still very variable is not nearly so irregular as is the case with gold- and silver lodes. Rich ore-shoots nevertheless occur, the tendency being for them to be found at lode intersections.

Economically, these lodes represent the most important of all the different classes of copper deposit; as will be indicated later, they are responsible for approximately one-half of the world's copper production. From 100 tons of ore, usually 1-1.5 tons, occasionally 2 tons, and exceptionally a somewhat larger number of tons of metallic copper, are obtained.

The most productive lode district of the present day is that at Butte, Montana.

## THE DISTRICT OF BUTTE, MONTANA

### LITERATURE

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The town of Butte in south-west Montana is situated in 46° north latitude, in the central portion of the Rocky Mountains, at a height of 1800 m. above sea-level. The comparatively small mining district to which it gives its name occurs within a large Tertiary eruptive area, about 70 miles long and 40 miles wide.<sup>1</sup>

The most important lodes are found in a relatively basic granite, containing only 64 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$  and rich in hornblende and mica, known as Butte Granite, but which is more correctly a quartz-monzonite.

In this granite, intrusions of granite-aplite under the name of Bluebird Granite containing 77 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and of quartz-porphyry under the name of Medoc Porphyry with 70 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ , occur as later differentiated products; while, as the last eruptive in the sequence and, in all probability of Neozoic age, follows rhyolite with 74 per cent  $\text{SiO}_2$ , partly in the form of dykes and partly as flows. The disposition of these rocks is indicated in Fig. 386. The rhyolite constitutes the Big Butte mountain which

<sup>1</sup> Many analyses of eruptive rocks from this area are published in F. W. Clarke, *Analyses of Rocks, from the Laboratory of the U.S. Geol. Surv.*, Bull. No. 228, 1904, pp. 132-134.—W. H. Weed, *Journ. Geol.* VII. p. 737.

rises 250 m. above the valley-level, and gives its name to town and district.

The granite is in all probability of early Tertiary age.

The lodes, which are invariably steep, belong to three systems :

(a) The oldest and economically most important are the east-west lodes, in which a repeated re-opening of the lode fissure may frequently be

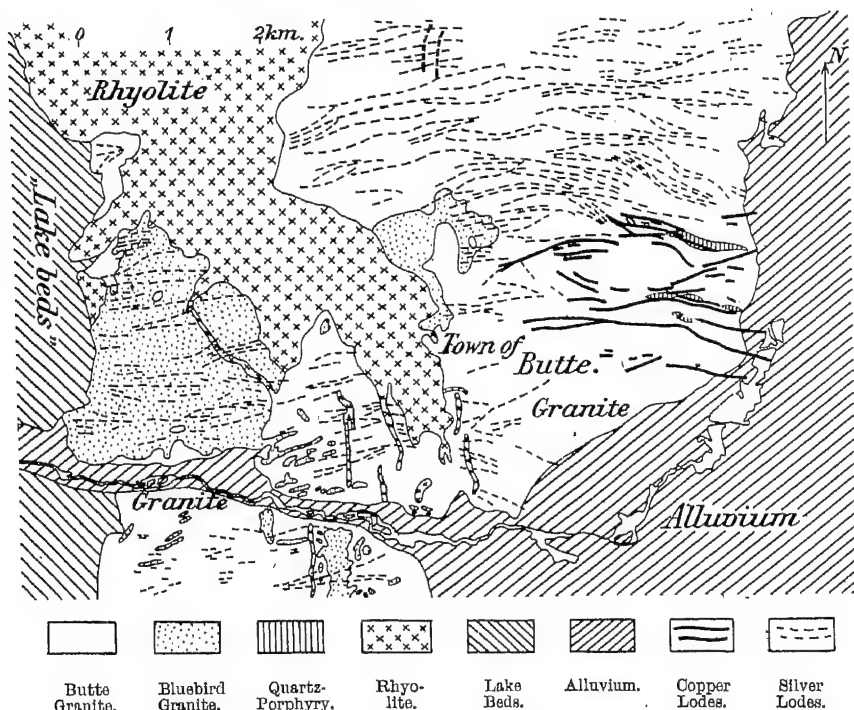


FIG. 386.—Map of the Butte Field. Emmons, 1897. The Lake beds consist of sand, rhyolite, tuff, etc.

observed, and in this sense they may be described as composite lodes. Their length along the strike frequently reaches several kilometres, as for instance in the Anaconda, Parrot, Mountain View, West-Colusa, and Syndicate lodes.

(b) Younger north-west lodes, which cut and dislocate those of the first system. Some of these are rich.

(c) Still younger north-east lodes, which dislocate the other two systems.

These lodes cut the aplite- and quartz-porphry dykes occurring in the granite, but on the other hand are older than the rhyolite.

According to the nature of the filling, in addition to copper lodes silver lodes may also be differentiated, these being however of little economic importance. All these quite rich copper lodes, with some minor exceptions, are found in a small area, 3 km. long and 1.5–2 km. wide, or about 5 sq. km. in extent. The silver lodes, now no longer worked, occur to the north, west, and south-west of this area. They contain sulphide silver ores such as argentite, proustite, pyrargyrite, tetrahedrite, stephanite, etc., with some native silver, sphalerite, pyrite, and galena; but in general and except a few in the immediate neighbourhood of the copper district, they contain practically no copper.

The gangue-minerals in the silver lodes are quartz, rhodochrosite, rhodonite, and hübnerite,  $\text{MnWO}_4$ . In this connection it is interesting to recall the fact that rhodochrosite in many silver lodes, and rhodonite in several of the Hungarian gold-silver deposits, play important parts. In addition, the silver lodes, unlike those of copper, exhibit a pronounced crusted structure and vuggy character.

The principal gangue-mineral with the copper lodes is quartz; calcite and barite occur seldom, while fluorite is practically absent. The separation from the highly decomposed granite is in general not sharp, the solutions circulating in the lode fissure having in part metasomatically replaced the country-rock, such lodes being spoken of by American authors as 'replacement veins.' On either side, the granite is traversed by numerous veins so that the average payable width is 15 m., while in the case of the Anaconda lode it may even reach 30–40 metres. The length along the strike is likewise considerable, frequently reaching one or more kilometres.

The metalliferous material of the copper lodes consists on an average of about 60 per cent of chalcocite, 30 per cent enargite, 8 per cent bornite, and 2 per cent chalcopyrite, covellite, and tetrahedrite; pyrite also occurs in the primary ore.

The occurrence of fresh undecomposed granite, though met in the central portion of the district, is very uncommon, from which fact an intense thermal activity must be presumed.

The formation of the lodes took place after the consolidation of the granite, aplite, and quartz-porphyry, but before the eruption of the rhyolite. Their formation belongs therefore to one of the last phases of the eruption, and one of intense tectonic movement. Weed in 1903 came therefore to the conclusion that the lode material was derived from the original magma.

Economically as well as scientifically the secondary depth-zones in this district, represented by extensive oxidation and cementation zones, are of great importance.

The gradual development of copper mining in this district may be



gathered from the following brief description: In the 'sixties some alluvial gold was won from the neighbourhood of Butte. Then silver mining in the oxidation zone of silver-quartz lodes characterized by large quantities of manganese oxide, was carried on fairly extensively, until the middle of the 'nineties when the price of silver fell. Some of the copper lodes also were originally worked near the surface exclusively for silver, the small amount of silver contained in the primary ore having remained in the oxidation zone, while the copper had been carried almost completely to the deeper cementation zone. In such cases a very small amount of native copper occurring now and then was the only indication of the true character of these deposits, copper carbonates being completely absent.<sup>1</sup>

Generally speaking, in this district oxidized copper ores are rare, though from one place in the oxidation zone of the Bullwhacker mine about 25,000 tons of silicate ore, chrysocolla, were obtained. In general the oxidation zone, reaching to a maximum depth of 100 m., is so completely leached of its copper content that in the early days it was impossible to conclude that rich copper ores existed in depth. Upon further sinking however, at the beginning of the 'eighties, rich cementation ores, constituting what was termed the sulphide enrichment, were found, the separation of these from the oxidation ores being so strikingly sharp that the passage from one to the other occupied at the most not more than a few feet. From that time production increased very rapidly. In the autumn of 1910 the deepest mine had reached 2900 feet, while the deepest drives of the more important mines are now on an average about 2000 feet. The ore-bodies in depth consist principally of quartz and of pyrite with a low copper content. According to micrometallographic studies by Simpson,<sup>2</sup> the pyrite contains mechanically admixed within itself, chalcopyrite, enargite, bornite, and chalcocite, this sequence representing the order of their age.

The composition of the primary mineralization has not yet been definitely settled. It is fairly certain however that the principal minerals, chalcocite, enargite, bornite, and covellite, are secondary. These minerals form crusts upon, and veins in the pyrite, which latter mineral in many places they have completely replaced. Since copper carbonates are entirely absent the conclusion has been drawn that the descending solutions were acid, and not alkaline.

The east-west lodes are characterized by extensive enrichment zones of more than 1 km. in length, while the youngest fault fissures are in part filled with large quantities of crushed clayey material, whereby the mineralization is limited to ore-shoots or bonanzas of very rich ore. Sales,<sup>3</sup> in explanation of this, considers that the descending cupriferous

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 882.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1908.

<sup>3</sup> *Loc. cit.*, 1908.

solutions, owing to this impervious clayey material, were only able to use certain channels. According to more recent investigation, chalcocite and enargite, which minerals in general diminish in depth, are to some extent also primary; of the two, chalcocite being found deposited upon enargite, is the younger.

In this district the ore has become poorer in depth; the average copper content of the smelting ore from the first thousand feet below the oxidation zone was 8-10 per cent, while in the second thousand feet it was not more than 6 per cent. It is however a question whether in depth, owing to continued improvements in mining and smelting, ore of such low content as formerly to be considered unpayable, has not latterly been worked at a profit.

The boundary between the sulphide enrichment zone and the primary ore is still but little known. According to Sales, the structural geologist of Butte, the cementation zone extends at most 1000 feet below the oxidation zone.

The development of copper mining at Butte is best shown by the following table by Merton, in which the Lake mines and those of Arizona are compared.

COPPER PRODUCTION IN LONG TONS

	1882.	1885.	1890.	1895.	1900.	1905.	1909.	1911.
Montana . . . . .	4,045	30,270	49,560	82,589	114,144	142,490	140,105	122,070
Idaho and Hecla . . . . .	14,300	21,075	26,250	34,454	34,745	37,950	40,000	35,000
Other Lake mines . . . . .	11,140	11,135	18,200	23,582	24,396	59,820	61,450	61,995
Arizona . . . . .	8,030	10,135	15,945	21,429	49,447	99,490	130,375	141,490
Others in United States . . . . .	2,955	1,435	6,370	10,246	40,800	49,370	118,350	132,095
Total of United States . . . . .	40,470	74,050	116,325	172,300	263,500	389,120	490,280	492,650
World's total . . . . .	181,600	225,600	269,500	334,500	479,500	682,125	839,425	873,460

The copper production of the Butte district increased very rapidly from the beginning of the 'eighties up to 1905, since when it has remained at approximately the same figure. This in part is probably due to the fact that in several of the principal mines operations have latterly had their seat in the intermediate zone between the rich cementation and the poorer primary zone. To-day Butte produces about one-seventh of the world's production. According to Weed, up to the end of 1901 a total of 1,282,000 metric tons, worth £79,375,000, were produced in this district; and from 1901 to the end of 1911, 2,528,000 tons, equivalent to a value of £160,000,000, the value of the silver and gold being additional.

This enormous amount of copper was practically all obtained from an area only 5 sq. km. in extent. Taking the now existing copper reserves

into consideration it is evident that Butte represents the most gigantic copper enrichment hitherto known in any circumscribed district.

The metallic copper produced contains on an average 0.23–0.24 per cent of silver and 0.0008 per cent of gold,<sup>1</sup> while in addition the Bessemer copper contains 0.008 per cent of tellurium. The ore is smelted for the production of matte, this being then refined by the Bessemer and electrolytic processes. The most important works are those of Anaconda, Parrot, Boston, the Butte Reduction Works, and the Montana Ore Producing Company.

In Arizona, which state surpasses Montana in its copper production, the three principal districts, Bisbee, including the famous Copper Queen mine, Clifton-Morenci, and Globe,<sup>2</sup> situated not far from the Mexican border, are all to be regarded as exhibiting a combination of contact-deposits and lodes. At Clifton-Morenci, in the neighbourhood of an occurrence of quartz-monzonite porphyry,<sup>3</sup> there are, in addition to contact-deposits characterized by contact minerals, a number of copper lodes, these being responsible for a considerable portion of the production. Similar circumstances attend the occurrences in the other two districts. Hitherto, in all three districts operations have been carried on chiefly in the oxidation zone.

In the Jerome or Black Range copper district, likewise in Arizona, and at Mineral Creek, the geological position of the deposits appears to be somewhat different.

The most important copper-producing region of the United States, apart from Arizona, Montana, and Michigan, is Bingham Cañon in Utah, 30 km. south-west of Salt Lake City. At that place, as at Clifton-Morenci, contact-metasomatic deposits occur in limestone in the neighbourhood of late Mesozoic or early Tertiary monzonite, on the one hand, and lodes accompanied by impregnation zones in monzonite, on the other. The monzonite first effected the contact-metamorphism of the limestone and its replacement by copper sulphides, and then, when the upper portion of the eruptive rock had become in part consolidated, north-west fissures were formed which became filled with hot aqueous solutions probably derived from the deeper and still molten monzonite magma. These solutions altered not only the limestone but also the monzonite, enriching them both with copper, silver, gold, and some molybdenite.<sup>4</sup>

The copper production of the United States in 1908 was distributed among the various states as follows :

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 163, 165, 873.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 396-398.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, Fig. 252.

<sup>4</sup> Bouthwell, Keith, and Emmons, *U.S. Geol. Surv.*, Prof. Pap. 38, 1905; H. Ries, *Econ. Geol.*, 1910.

	Metric tons.		Metric tons.
Arizona . . . . .	129,700	Nevada . . . . .	7,800
Montana . . . . .	114,200	Idaho . . . . .	4,600
Michigan . . . . .	101,600	Colorado . . . . .	4,500
Utah . . . . .	39,400	New Mexico . . . . .	2,800
California . . . . .	17,600	Alaska . . . . .	2,100
Tennessee . . . . .	8,800	Wyoming . . . . .	1,100

To these are to be added a number of states having a very small production, so that altogether, according to 'Mine Returns,' 434,000 tons, or according to 'Smelters Returns' 427,000 tons, were obtained. The deposits of the Lake Superior district in Michigan are discussed in a subsequent chapter.

#### DUCKTOWN, TENNESSEE

This district, so often cited in the older American literature, is remarkable among the copper deposits. Here occur lenticular pyrite beds in general conformably intercalated in crystalline schists, presumably pre-Cambrian, and more particularly in mica-quartz schists. These beds are usually 20 m., or in exceptional cases 50 m. thick, and carry principally pyrrhotite with pyrite, chalcopyrite, some sphalerite, and galena. Hornblende, augite, garnet, zoisite, quartz, calcite, etc., occur as gangue. At the outcrop of the principal occurrences, the deposits down to a depth of 30 m. are altered to a gossan, beneath which follows a 1-3 m. thick cementation or sulphide-enrichment zone consisting in greater part of amorphous copper sulphide with some malachite and azurite. This zone at a still greater depth gives place to primary pyrite.

W. H. Weed <sup>1</sup> regards this deposit as a true fissure-filling—containing principally pyrrhotite and pyrite, and practically free from quartz—which derived its material from the alteration of a rock zone consisting chiefly of metamorphic minerals.

J. F. Kemp <sup>2</sup> likewise regards the deposit as a lode-like replacement product, though he believes the original rock to have been limestone.

H. Ries <sup>3</sup> describes the deposit among the true fissure-fillings in mica-schists, this filling being accompanied by metasomatism of a rock consisting of garnet, zoisite, actinolite, epidote, pyroxene, etc., these minerals according to him having resulted from the alteration of calcareous slate.

Vogt points out that according to the descriptions the pyrite occurs as idiomorphous crystals embedded in the pyrrhotite, and that the mineral-association is identical with that of the Norwegian pyrite deposits. He is of opinion that this occurrence, like the intrusive pyrite deposits, owes its existence to magmatic differentiation.

The Ducktown mine is one of the oldest copper mines in the United

<sup>1</sup> 1900.

<sup>2</sup> 1901.

<sup>3</sup> *Econ. Geol.*, Text-book, 1910.

States, operations having been carried on since 1850, when the rich cementation zone was first exploited. Subsequently pyrite was mined, this in 1908 containing on an average 1.55 per cent of copper, as well as some silver and gold. The sulphuric acid obtained from the pyrite is used in the development of the phosphate deposits occurring in the neighbourhood.<sup>1</sup>

### MEXICO

The copper production of this country from 1880 to 1911 may be gathered from the following figures :

	Boleo.	Other Mines.
	Tons.	Tons.
1880	...	400
1885	...	375
1890	3,450	875
1895	10,450	1,170
1900	11,050	11,000
1905	10,185	54,255
1909	12,230	44,095
1911	12,185	41,865

The deposit at Boleo in the lower half of the Californian peninsula, which has been worked since the middle of the 'eighties, occurs bed-like in Tertiary tuffs. It is discussed in a subsequent chapter.

Concerning the already-mentioned<sup>2</sup> deposits at Cananea, a paper by S. F. Emmons<sup>3</sup> has recently been published. These deposits occur near the boundary with Arizona in a presumably early Tertiary petrographic province consisting from oldest to youngest of :

1. Diabase.
2. Rhyolite.
3. Mesa-tuffs and andesite.
4. Syenite and syenite-porphry.
5. Diorite-porphryite.
6. Granite-porphry, grano-diorite, and quartz-porphry.
7. Gabbro-diasite.

In the contact aureole along the diabase-porphryite, grano-diorite, and quartz-porphry, and principally within a zone 10 km. long and 1.5-3 km. wide, numerous important contact-deposits containing bornite,

<sup>1</sup> C. Heinrich, *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Inst.* XXV., 1896 ; J. F. Kemp, *ibid.* XXXI., 1902 ; W. H. Weed, 'Types of Copper-Deposits in Southern United States,' *ibid.* XXX., 1901 ; *Bull. Geol. Soc. Am.* XI., April 1900.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 398.

<sup>3</sup> 'Cananea Mining District of Sonora,' *Econ. Geol.* V., June 1910.

chalcopyrite and sphalerite, pyrite, etc., are found. In addition, a number of likewise very productive quartz lodes containing chalcopyrite, pyrite, sphalerite, etc., occur, principally along fault fissures. Geologically therefore, Cananea is fairly closely related to the not far distant occurrences of Bisbee and Clifton-Morenci.

According to Emmons, mineralization was effected by strongly heated solutions emanating from the cooling magma. Two classes of deposit representing two stages in the deposition are to be differentiated, namely, in the first place, contact occurrences, which were formed above the critical temperature of the solutions; and secondly, lodes, these having been formed by solutions below the critical temperature.

The occurrence of copper contact-deposits and copper lodes in granodiorite at Concepcion del Oro has already been mentioned.<sup>1</sup> At San José in Tamaudipas, near the boundary with Texas, according to J. F. Kemp,<sup>2</sup> copper deposits also occur which are in part contact-metamorphic and in part lode-like.

## CHILI

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The disposition of the most important copper deposits in Chili is indicated on the map constituting Fig. 387, from which it is seen that these deposits are widely distributed in numerous districts between 19° and 35° south latitude, south of which there are but few.

In this region lodes are the chief form of deposit, though according to Möricke some quite subordinate contact-deposits and a few unimportant

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 398.

<sup>2</sup> *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.*, May 1905.

occurrences of the Lake Superior type are also found. This authority in

1897 divided the copper-, silver-, and gold-occurrences of Chili, which are so closely connected with eruptive rocks, into the following groups :

1. Gold-copper deposits : Lodes and impregnations containing gold and usually some auriferous copper ores in moderately acid and acid eruptive rocks, such as quartz-gabbro or quartz-augite-diorite, quartz-diorite, syenite, amphibole-granitite, quartz-porphry or liparite. The principal gangue-mineral is quartz ; tourmaline(!) is frequently present.

A. Gold deposits proper, *e.g.* at Guanaco in Antofagasta ; Inca de Oro, Cachiuyo, and Jesus Maria in Atacama ; Talca, Andacollo, and Los Sauces in Coquimbo ; Chivatos in Talca, etc.

B. Deposits containing rich copper ore with, as a rule, a very variable gold content, free gold being found here and there, *e.g.* at Remolinos and Ojancos in Atacama ; Tamaya and La Higuera in Coquimbo ; Caleu, Las Condes, and Peralillo in Santiago, etc.

These subordinate groups of deposit, being connected by every possible gradation, are not easily differentiated from each other.

2. Silver-copper deposits : Deposits containing silver minerals—with no considerable gold content—associated with argentiferous copper ores, in basic plagioclase-augite rocks, such as diabase, augite-porphryite, and augite-andesite, or in Mesozoic sediments, especially limestones, penetrated by those eruptive rocks. The principal gangue-minerals are calcite, barite, and quartz. Zeolites are frequently present, while tourmaline is completely absent. These deposits may be divided into the following subdivisions :

A. Deposits with copper ores containing no gold but as a rule some silver. Native silver is sometimes present,

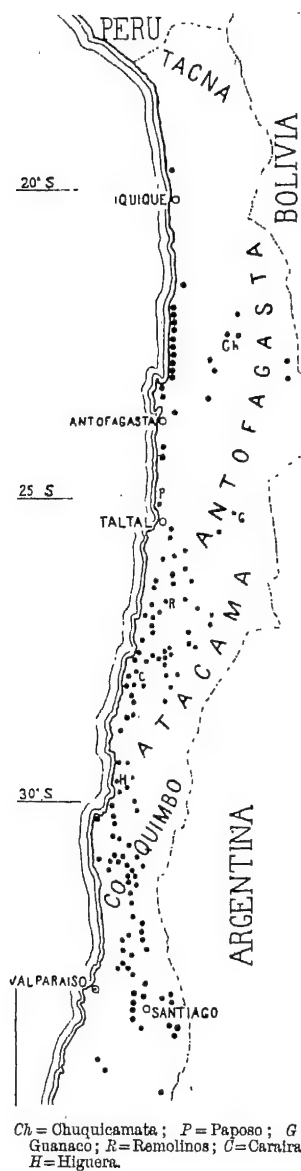


FIG. 387.—Map of the Chilean copper deposits.

*e.g.* at Puquios and Checo in Atacama; Mercedes de Algodones in Coquimbo; Catemo in Aconcagua; Lampa in Santiago, etc.

B. Deposits containing silver. Copper ores occur here more or less subordinately, *e.g.* at Tres Puntas, Cabeza de Vaca, Los Bordos, Chañarcillo, San Antonio in Atacama; Algodones, Rodaito, Argueros, Quitana in Coquimbo, etc.

These two subordinate groups are likewise most closely connected with each other.

3. Silver lodes with a high gold content. These occur in both basic and acid eruptive rocks. Free gold as well as silver chlorides occur not infrequently, *e.g.* at Lomas Bayas in Atacama, and Condoriaco in Coquimbo.

This type of precious-metal deposit may be taken to represent at the same time a combination of groups 1A and 2B.

4. Deposits containing galena, sphalerite, tetrahedrite, enargite, etc. Though silver minerals are rarely found these deposits are argentiferous throughout, and usually somewhat auriferous. They are associated with Tertiary andesite and liparite and their respective tuffs, *e.g.* at Cerro Blanco and La Coipa in Atacama; Las Hediondas, Vacas Heladas and Rio Seco in Coquimbo, etc.

The last-mentioned deposits, situated in the Andes 3000-4000 m. above sea-level and worked more particularly for silver and gold but not for copper, belong to the Tertiary gold-silver group.<sup>1</sup> This is also the case with the silver-gold deposits mentioned in group 3, while from descriptions it would appear that very many of the silver deposits of group 2B and of the gold deposits of group 1A are also of Tertiary age.

Those eruptive rocks with which the copper lodes are associated are invariably fairly young, that is, Upper Cretaceous or early Tertiary, some perhaps still younger.

Economically, the copper deposits of Chili are more important than those of silver and gold. This may be gathered from the following figures of production for 1910:

Copper . . . .	35,235 tons, worth £2,000,000
Silver . . . .	44,479 kg., " 150,000
Gold . . . .	1,268 " " 175,000

The Chilean copper lodes carry quartz as principal gangue. Tourmaline, as pointed out by Groddeck,<sup>2</sup> Stelzner,<sup>3</sup> and Möricke,<sup>4</sup> is highly characteristic of many. Such for instance is the case with the auriferous copper lodes in a massive syenitic rock at Taltal in northern Chili; the auriferous copper deposits in quartz-gabbro and quartz-diorite at Tamaya in Coquimbo, where the country-rock is often completely tourmalinized;

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 515-600.

<sup>2</sup> 1887

<sup>3</sup> 1897.

<sup>4</sup> 1897.



the likewise auriferous copper lodes in gabbro-diorite and quartz-diorite in the important mining district of Copaquire in Coquimbo; and many other deposits cited in the works of Stelzner and Möricke. In addition, actinolite frequently occurs and, according to information received from Professor Schneider, occasionally also garnet. Specularite and molybdenite occur fairly extensively; scheelite, cuproscheelite, anatase, and zircon, are found as rareties; while cassiterite, fluorite, and topaz, are absent. According to Möricke, tourmaline occurs only in lodes connected with acid or moderately acid eruptive rocks, such as granite, syenite, diorite, quartz-gabbro, quartz-porphyry, etc., and is absent from those associated with basic eruptives.

The most important ores of the Chilian copper deposits are, chalcopyrite, bornite, and chalcocite; and in the upper levels, cuprite, malachite and azurite, native copper, covellite, tenorite, brochantite, and in the northern provinces, atacamite. Occasionally much chalcantite has been found at the outcrop of some deposits, as for instance at Copaquire high up in the Andes.<sup>1</sup>

Tetrahedrite and domeykite are uncommon; enargite, which occurs fairly extensively in the young lodes mentioned under group 4, appears to be absent from the copper lodes. These copper lodes frequently contain a small amount of silver and gold, the silver being found principally in the bornite and chalcocite, the gold chiefly in the chalcopyrite. Though tetrahedrite is uncommon, it frequently has a high though variable silver content. It is interesting to note on the other hand that this mineral, as in the Teniente mine, may occur practically free from silver.

In these Chilian copper lodes also, the cementation or sulphide-enrichment zone is particularly rich; at Tamaya, for instance, under a bright-coloured oxidation zone<sup>2</sup> followed a zone containing bornite and chalcocite,<sup>3</sup> this continuing to a depth of 220 m.; under this again came the primary zone in which chalcopyrite predominated.<sup>4</sup>

Copper mining in Chili began on a very moderate scale at the commencement of the seventeenth century; it increased considerably about the middle of the nineteenth century so that from 1855 to 1880 Chili ranked first among the copper-producing countries; but subsequently was surpassed by other large copper-producing countries till now it occupies the sixth place, the sequence being:

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. United States. | 4. Japan.     |
| 2. Mexico.        | 5. Australia. |
| 3. Spain.         | 6. Chili.     |

<sup>1</sup> H. Oehmichen, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1902, p. 147.

<sup>2</sup> *Metal de color.*

<sup>3</sup> *Metal de color bronceada.*

<sup>4</sup> *Bronce amarillo.*

The importance of the copper production of Chili at different periods, and the copper content of the exported ore and the by-products smelting, may be gathered from the following table :

	Long Tons.		Long Tons.
1650 . . . . .	50	1875 . . . . .	47,670
1700 . . . . .	100	1880 . . . . .	39,580
1750 . . . . .	750	1885 . . . . .	39,800
1800 . . . . .	1,250	1890 . . . . .	26,650
1830 . . . . .	3,000	1895 . . . . .	22,075
1840 . . . . .	6,500	1900 . . . . .	25,700
1850 . . . . .	12,340	1905 . . . . .	29,165
1860 . . . . .	34,120	1910 . . . . .	35,235
1865 . . . . .	41,210	1911 . . . . .	29,595
1870 . . . . .	44,200		

The total copper production of Chili has been :

before 1840 . . . . .	estimated at	250,000 tons.
1840-1854 . . . . .	about	250,000 „
1855-1894 . . . . .	„	1,501,000 „
1895-1911 . . . . .	„	484,000 „

Total nearly 2,500,000 tons.

The sources from which the above statistics were compiled were : For recent periods, H. R. Merton, *Annual Copper Statistics*; for the earlier periods, A. Herrmann, *La Produccion de Oro, Plata i Cobre en Chile*, Santiago, 1894.<sup>1</sup>

The production for 1903 was distributed among the various provinces as follows :

	Tons of Copper.
Tacna i Arica, in the north . . . . .	462
Prov. Tarapacá, 19°-21° south lat. . . . .	1,496
Dept. Antofagasta, 21°-25° south lat. . . . .	3,647
„ Tocopilla { 25°-26° south lat. . . . .	{ 1,588
„ Taltal . . . . .	517
„ Chafaral { 26°-28° south lat. . . . .	{ 4,821
„ Copiapó . . . . .	6,606
„ Vallenar i Freirina { 28°-30° south lat. . . . .	{ 3,524
„ Elqui i la Serena . . . . .	2,014
„ Coquimbo i Ovalle, 30° south lat. . . . .	4,679
„ Combarbalá e Illapel . . . . .	426
„ Petorca i Ligua . . . . .	880
„ Putaendo, etc. . . . .	1,152
Prov. Valparaiso { 33°-34° south lat. . . . .	{ 773
„ Santiago . . . . .	2,052
Dept. Talca, 36° south lat. . . . .	8
Total . . . . .	34,645

According to the *Estadística Minera de Chile en 1903*, Santiago, 1905, Merton reckons the copper produced in Chili during that year to have been 330 tons.

The most productive mines lie between 26° and 30° south latitude, and are all in the Atacama district. At its zenith, from 1860 to 1885, Chili

<sup>1</sup> Vogt, 'Die Statistik des Kupfers,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1896, p. 89.

produced some 40,000 tons annually, a production which subsequently decreased to 20,000–25,000 tons; only however to rise again considerably of late years. The great fall in production from 1885 to 1900 was due to the particularly low price of copper, and to political disturbance. The statement sometimes heard that the copper lodes rapidly pinch out in depth or become completely impoverished, is incorrect. According to Schneider in 1910, none of the long-established mines were then exhausted, though some had reached a vertical depth of 600–800 metres. The more important mines are: Collahusai in Tarapacá; Chuquicamata in Antofagasta; Guanaco with very auriferous copper ores, and Paposo with a vertical depth of 400 m., in Taltal; Descubridora de Carizalillo, 650 m. deep, and Fortunata de las Amimas, 430 m. deep, in Chañaral. In Copiapó, the important Dulcinea mine, 800 m. deep, and the Cerro Blanco and Ojanco mines, 380 m. deep, near Remolinos, with auriferous copper ore. In Vallenar i Freirina, Carizal-Alto, 414 m. deep. In Elqui i la Serena, the celebrated La Higuera mine, 350 m. deep, and the Brillador, 550 m. deep. In Coquimbo i Qualle, Zannhillo, 200 m. deep, and Tamaya with the Rosario mine, 590 m. deep. And finally, Desengaño in the neighbourhood of Santiago.

The famous Chañaricillo silver mine, first discovered in 1832 though now practically exhausted, reached an approximate depth of 700 metres. The value of the silver produced from this mine was according to Möricke about £60,000,000, though Nordenskjöld estimated it to be only £22,500,000.

## JAPAN

### LITERATURE

Les Mines du Japon, Paris Exhibition, 1900.—‘Mining in Japan,’ Past and Present, Bureau of Mines, 1900.—Résumé statistique de l’empire du Japon, Tokio.—L. de LAUNAY. La géologie et les richesses minérales de l’Asie, Paris, 1911.

A map indicating the disposition of the useful deposits of Japan is presented in Fig. 310. Of late years this country has ranked fourth among the copper-producing countries. In addition to deposits of cupriferous pyrite, copper lodes are also known. To the first-mentioned belongs the deposit occurring in crystalline schists under similar circumstances to the deposits of Norway and Spain, at the Besshi mine on Shikou, one of the southern islands, this mine being 544 m. deep and responsible for about one-eighth of the copper production of Japan. Of greater economic importance however are the copper lodes occurring principally on the main island of Nipon. In the north of that island and in the provinces Echizen and Kaga somewhat farther south, such lodes are

found at Kosaka, Osarusawa, Ani, Hisanichi, Arakawa, Nagamatsu, Ogoya, and Yusenji. Almost all these occur either in, or in the neighbourhood of Tertiary propylitized liparite and andesite. Exceptionally, the lodes at Omodani occur in Mesozoic beds in association with quartz-porphry, and others at Mizusawa in granite, though liparite exists in the neighbourhood. At Kosaka, now on account of its high silver content the most important copper deposit in Japan, the lodes are found in andesite or trachyte and attendant tuffs.

The deposits at the famous Ashio mine, which are responsible for approximately one-sixth of the present Japanese copper production, occur principally in liparite, dacite, and andesite; a few only, have as country-rock the slates adjacent to these eruptives. The ore of these lodes consists chiefly of chalcopyrite and pyrite with some bornite, a little sphalerite, and galena; while quartz, calcite, and barite, occur as gangue. L. de Launay compares this district with that of Butte, Montana, manganese minerals being common to both.

In Chugoku, the deposits traverse Palæozoic as well as Tertiary beds penetrated by eruptive rocks. Although that at Sasagatani is regarded as a contact occurrence, others are undoubtedly typical fissure-fillings in quartz-porphry and liparite.

From this brief description it is seen that many of the Japanese copper lodes, and among them the important deposits at Kosaka and Ashio, are of Tertiary age.

Copper mining is the most important mining industry of Japan. The value of the production of the different heavy metals in 1908 was as follows :

Copper . . . .	£2,350,000	Antimony . . . .	£5,500
Gold . . . . .	715,000	Tin . . . . .	3,600
Silver . . . . .	462,500	Zinc ore . . . . .	31,500
Iron . . . . .	400,000	Pyrite . . . . .	17,500
Lead . . . . .	41,500	Manganese ore . . . .	15,500

The copper production of Japan, whose art industry in this metal is universally recognized, is many centuries old. The deposit at Besshi, discovered in 1690, produced in 1698 some 1500 tons of copper; while the Ashio deposit discovered in 1610, from 1676 to 1688, produced on an average 1375 tons yearly.

At Joshioka mining operations began as far back as 807, and at Omodani between 1342 and 1344.

From the following table it is seen that the copper output of this country has of late years increased considerably.

	Tons.		Tons.
1875 . . . .	2,400	1895 . . . .	19,100
1880 . . . .	4,700	1900 . . . .	25,300
1885 . . . .	10,500	1905 . . . .	35,500
1890 . . . .	18,100	1911 . . . .	52,000

In 1908 there were at work no less than forty-three copper mines of importance, among which the following are worthy of particular mention : Kosaka in Rikuchu, Ashio in Shimotsuke, Besshi in Jyo, Osaruzawa in Rikuchu, Ani in Ugo, Ikuno in Tajima, and Kano in Iwashiro.

## AUSTRALIA

### LITERATURE

J. A. PHILLIPS and H. LOUIS. *A Treatise on Ore Deposits*. London, 1896.—Reports of the various colonies for the Mining Exhibition, London, 1890, and other exhibitions.—L. GASQUEL. *Ann. des Mines*, 10 Ser. Vol. VII. pp. 544-562, 1905.

One of the most important copper-fields in this country is that of Moonta-Wallaroo in the Yorke peninsula, near Adelaide, South Australia. At Moonta, first discovered in 1861, copper lodes occur in quartz-porphry. Seventeen kilometres away the well-known Wallaroo mine, discovered a year earlier, exploits lodes in Cambrian mica-schists with some limestone, etc. The lodes of both districts carry principally chalcoppyrite and some bornite, with quartz as gangue. Wallaroo carries in addition some pyrite, arsenopyrite, cobaltite, etc. At Moonta the pyrite content is very low. Barite, fluorite, and tourmaline, apparently do not occur at either place ; some felspar on the other hand is found at Moonta.

In this latter district, within an area 1.5 km. square, a considerable number of lodes are known. In 1903 the deepest shaft had reached a depth of 800 metres. The lodes become poorer in depth. At Wallaroo a steep lode of considerable extent and usually at least 2 m. wide is worked. This lode cuts through the schists. In 1890 the deepest shaft was 400 metres.

At the outcrop of these lodes large quantities of malachite, azurite, cuprite, atacamite, native copper, etc., occurred, the carbonates and atacamite predominating. The sulphides were first met in greater depth. At Wallaroo for instance, down to a depth of 30 m. only carbonates, etc. were known ; below this and to a depth of 50 m., black copper sulphides ; and below this again, chalcoppyrite mixed with quartz. The black copper sulphides are in all probability cementation ores. At Moonta on the other hand, where in the neighbourhood some limestone comes to the surface, chalcoppyrite began to appear at a depth of 30-40 metres. From 1861 to 1903 this mine produced about 120,000 tons of metallic copper ; to this must be added the production of Wallaroo, and later that of the united Moonta-Wallaroo mine, this being about 6000 tons per year.

Burra-Burra, in South Australia and about 160 km. north-north-east of Adelaide, was formerly famous for its rich oxidation ores. At this place two lodes occur in a complex consisting of slate, limestone, and sandstone—sometimes described as serpentinized limestone—these lodes

near the surface carrying malachite, azurite, cuprite, native copper, etc. These oxidation ores reach to a depth of 75–90 m. free from sulphides ; not till a depth of 170–190 m. is reached do sulphides exclusively occur, and then such are represented almost entirely by chalcopyrite.

This deposit was discovered in 1845, and exploited with considerable profit up to 1877 ; altogether 234,648 tons of ore containing 51,522 tons of copper worth £4,749,224, were produced, a considerable portion of this sum being net profit. In this case, in spite of the high content of the oxidation ore, the sulphide ore proved to be unpayable.

Most of the other Australian copper deposits, as for instance the important occurrence at Cobar in New South Wales, likewise occur in the form of lodes. The pyrite deposits at Mount Lyell on the west coast of Tasmania are however exceptions. These deposits were discovered in 1886, though not till the middle of the 'nineties was exploitation begun. They occur in metamorphic Silurian slates, and in many respects resemble the Huelva pyrite deposits. The ore-bodies have an average width of 100 feet or a maximum of 300 feet, and may be 950 feet long. The ore consists on an average of 83 per cent of pyrite, 14 per cent chalcopyrite with 4·5 per cent of copper, 2 per cent barite, and 1 per cent of quartz. Mining operations began in 1896, resulting later in a yearly output of 8000 tons of copper. From 1896 to 1908 the total copper production of Tasmania amounted to 94,923 tons, worth £7,771,830, this production having been derived almost exclusively from Mount Lyell.

In addition to copper, Mount Lyell pyrite contains 0·25 part of silver to 100 parts of copper, and 1 part of gold to 52 parts of silver, so that it is more argentiferous and auriferous than other intrusive pyrite deposits.

The approximate value of the copper and copper ore exported from Australia may be gathered from the following table :

South Australia, 1843 to 1855	.	.	.	£2,077,300
1856 to 1895	.	.	.	18,603,655
New South Wales, 1859 to 1895	.	.	.	6,483,929
Queensland, 1860 to 1895	.	.	.	1,987,074
Victoria, 1895	.	.	.	206,395
Total				£29,358,353

Including the home consumption and the small amount from Tasmania before 1895, the total output of copper in Australia up to and including that year may be estimated to have been about 400,000 tons.

The annual production of copper in Australia, including the copper contained in the ore exported, has at different periods been as follows :

1860	.	.	about 4,500 long tons.	1895	.	.	about 10,000 long tons.
1870	.	.	9,500 "	1900	.	.	23,020 "
1880	.	.	9,700 "	1905	.	.	33,940 "
1885	.	.	11,400 "	1910	.	.	40,315 "
1890	.	.	7,500 "	1911	.	.	41,840 "

From 1896 to 1911 the total production was 440,000 tons. Adding this to the figures given above for the production before this period, Australia up to the end of 1911 had altogether produced 840,000 tons of copper. Of this total, some 120,000 tons came from the Mount Lyell pyrite deposits, about 51,000 tons from Burra-Burra during the period 1846-1877, and probably some 250,000 tons from Moonta-Wallaroo.

### RUSSIA-SIBERIA

Copper mining in Russia and Siberia, as will be seen from the following figures of production, is centuries old :

	Tons.		Tons.
1700 . . .	3276	1880 . . .	3,200
1820 . . .	3500	1890 . . .	4,800
1830 . . .	3870	1895 . . .	5,280
1840 . . .	4120	1900 . . .	8,220
1850 . . .	6450	1905 . . .	8,700
1860 . . .	5020	1910 . . .	22,310
1870 . . .	5050	1911 . . .	25,570

According to de Launay, the production in 1908 was distributed as follows :

	Tons.		Tons.
The Urals . . .	8560	The Kirghiz Steppes . .	1100
The Caucasus . . .	4840	Miscellaneous deposits .	2200

In the year 1905 there were 7 copper mines in the Urals, 8 in the Caucasus, 1 in the Altai Mountains, and 1 in the Kirghiz Steppes.

The Permian ores, which are described later when dealing with impregnations, are no longer exploited.

The famous copper deposits in the Urals, at Bogoslovsk 60° north latitude, at Mednoroudiansk near Nishne Tagilsk,<sup>1</sup> well known for the blocks of malachite employed in the manufacture of ornaments, at Goumsheshevsk, Simonovsk, etc., are probably of contact-metamorphic origin.<sup>2</sup>

The Kedabek deposit on the south side of the Caucasus is also regarded by most investigators as contact-metamorphic. According to A. Oehm, whose manuscript is quoted by Beck, in connection with this deposit a large number of eruptive rocks—quartz-porphry or liparite, keratophyre, quartz-diorite; dykes of diabase and diabase-porphryite; and other, effusive rocks—and tuffs occur. According to P. Nicou,<sup>3</sup> whom de Launay quotes, a micro-granulite or quartz-porphry probably of Jurassic age, occurs under sheets of andesite and in the neighbourhood of diorite. He mentions in addition andesite dykes which cut through the ore-deposits. The ore-bodies, of which seventeen are known, are lenticular and appear to occur

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, Figs. 150, 231.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 360-366.

<sup>3</sup> *Ann. des mines*, 10th Series, Vol. VI., 1904.

along and within the quartz-porphry.<sup>1</sup> This deposit since 1865 has been worked by Siemens Brothers.<sup>2</sup>

In the Kirghiz Steppes, numerous lead-copper lodes, capable of division into several groups, are found in slate, limestone, and porphyry or porphyrite. In the Altai district also, lead-silver-copper lodes are known around Smeinogorsk. In these regions mining operations, formerly so extensive, have of late years considerably decreased.<sup>3</sup>

## TELEMARKEN IN NORWAY

### LITERATURE

J. H. L. Vogt. 'Den Thelemark-Sättersdalske Ertsformation. Norske Ertsforekømster III. and IIIb,' *Archiv f. Mathem. Naturv.* X., 1886, and XII., 1888; also *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, April 1895, in which papers by T. Dahl, 1860, Th. Scheerer, 1844, 1845, 1863, B. M. Keilbar, 1850, and P. Herter, 1871, are cited.

Telemarken consists of late Archaean or Algonkian slates, conglomerates, and quartzites, all of which are penetrated by later pre-Silurian granite. In one place at Svartdal quartz-diorite occurs. In these rocks a large number of ore-deposits are found, most of which carry chalcopyrite, bornite, and chalcocite without any accompaniment of pyrite or pyrrhotite. These occurrences may be grouped in the following manner:

1. Lodes in granite, principally along vertical joint-planes, as illustrated in Fig. 145; occasionally, as at Svartdal, in quartz-diorite.

2. Lodes along vertical joint-planes in granitic dykes, as illustrated in Fig. 388.

3. Lodes along the walls of granitic dykes in slate, as illustrated in Fig. 389.

4. Lodes in slate.

5. Bedded lodes and impregnations resembling fahlbands, in slate.<sup>4</sup>

The two last-named types occur principally in the neighbourhood of the granite contact; the Hoffnung bedded lode, for instance, at Aamdal, which is at least 1400 m. long, is only about 40 m. distant from gneiss-granite.

In addition to copper ores, molybdenite occurs in some places so abundantly that it is exploited, as for instance at Langvand in Sättersdal, and, farther west, at Knaben in Fjotland; a few lodes contain galena, sphalerite, arsenopyrite, etc.; at Dalane in Kvitseid, an impregnation of native copper with native silver occurs; in the 5 km. long quartz-diorite

<sup>1</sup> Or andesite?

<sup>2</sup> L. de Launay, *La Géologie et les richesses minérales de l'Asie*, 1911; and in Russian, E. Fedorow, *Ann. géol. et minér. de la Russie*, 1901, IV. Section I.; *Mém. Ac. Imp. de Science de St-Petersbourg*, Ser. VIII., Vol. XIV., 1903.

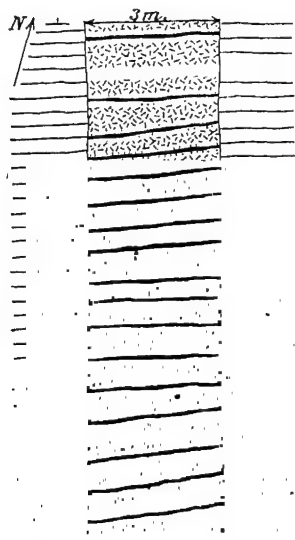
<sup>3</sup> L. de Launay, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Fig. 54, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1895.



area at Svartdal some gold lodes containing chalcopyrite, pyrite, etc., and a fair amount of bismuthinite, occur; while finally tetradymite has been observed in several places.

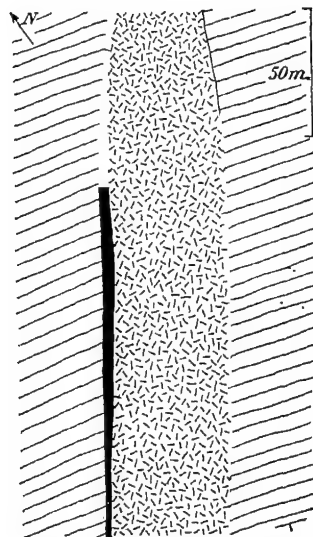
Quartz is the most important gangue, this mineral in some lodes being accompanied by tourmaline, and particularly so in the gold-bismuthinite lode at Svartdal. Muscovite frequently occurs, as for instance at Klovereid



Slate. Granitic dyke with  
veins of ore. Slate.

FIG. 388. — Sketch-plan of the occurrence of copper ore in the Näsmark mine. Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1895, p. 149.

Granitic dyke traversing quartz-schists and containing transverse copper veins following one another at regular intervals of 0·3-0·4 m., these veins being accompanied by narrow greisen zones.



Slate. Lode. Granitic  
dyke. Slate.

FIG. 389. — Sketch-plan of the copper lode in the Moberg mine in Telemarken. Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1895, p. 149.

Granite dyke traversing quartz-schists and having on one wall a wide quartz lode with muscovite crystals on the walls and nests of copper ore in places.

illustrated in Fig. 145, Näsmark illustrated in Fig. 388, and Svartdal. Similarly to the zinnwaldite of the tin lodes at Zinnwald, illustrated in Fig. 146, this muscovite is in part arranged perpendicular to, and on the walls. Calcite and other crystalline carbonates are subordinate. Fluorite is occasionally found in some lodes; at Dalen in the neighbourhood of Bandakvand it occurs in such large amount that some thousand tons have been won. Epidote, hornblende, beryl, etc., also occur.

In many mines the granite along the lodes is altered to a rock resembling greisen.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, Figs. 145, 261, 262, and pp. 874 and 879.

The lodes generally are closely associated with the granite, or at Svartdal with the quartz-diorite. Their occurrence along joint-planes in granite or in granitic dykes points to a genetic association with the granite eruption. In addition, the presence of tin minerals, tourmaline, fluorite, molybdenite—in one place also wolframite, scheelite, molybdenite, and exceptionally, uranium and beryl—together with the greisen-like alteration of the country-rock, indicates that the genetic conditions at the formation of the lodes at Telemarken were quite similar to those of the tin lodes.<sup>1</sup> Vogt therefore described these deposits as 'tin lodes with copper in the place of tin.'

Some of the deposits were exploited as far back as the sixteenth century. The bedded lodes at Aamdal have so far produced copper ore containing about 7500 tons of copper, while mining operations upon them continue to expand.

### THE CUPRIFEROUS SIDERITE LODES

These constitute a special type of copper lode of which the most important representatives are found at Mitterberg in the Salzburg Hills, Dobschau in Upper Hungary, and in Siegerland.<sup>2</sup> They occur frequently in early Palæozoic beds, and agree in their general characteristics with the siderite lodes of Siegerland. The width, as at Dobschau, may be considerable and reach several metres. The lodes belonging to this class carry principally siderite, quartz, and sulphides, of which latter chalcopyrite and pyrite are the most important, the pyrite frequently increasing in depth.

Bornhardt, in respect to Siegerland, was the first to point out that in general a great difference in age exists between the different minerals of the filling, a fact which Krusch by the microscope was not only able to confirm but also to establish in respect to Mitterberg and Dobschau. With these deposits the first filling consists of siderite together with a small amount of sulphides, such as pyrite and chalcopyrite. The siderite overwhelmingly predominating, the lodes in general represent siderite lodes. The entry of quartz solutions to effect the more or less complete replacement of the siderite took place at a later period and after repeated re-opening of the fissure, this process being accordingly described as a silicification of the lodes. Although such silicification took place undoubtedly from depth upwards, nevertheless in a vertical section silicified and unsilicified sections may alternate, replacement of the material in the original fissure having depended not only upon the exact course of the re-opened fissure but also

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 365.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 792.

upon the different degrees of resistance which the variable structure of the siderite offered to metasomatic replacement. As a third stage new mineral solutions entered, which in their turn in part replaced both siderite and quartz. The lodes belonging to this group are excellent examples therefore of internal lode metasomatism.

The original siderite filling being usually of great age, these lodes often exhibit evidence of intense tectonic activity and now frequently occur folded and disturbed by all manner of faults.

### MITTERBERG IN THE SALZBURG ALPS

#### LITERATURE

F. M. STAPPE. *Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg.* Vol. XXIV., 1885.—F. POŠERNÝ. *Archiv f. prakt. Geol.* Vol. I., 1880, pp. 274-293.—A. v. GRODDECK. 'Zur Kenntniss einiger Serizitgesteine, welche neben und in Erzlagerstätten auftreten,' *N. Jahrb. f. Min. B.-B.* II., 1883, pp. 72-183; 'Zur Kenntniss des grünen Gesteins von Mitterberg,' *Jahrb. d. k. k. geol. Reichsanst.* Vol. XXXIII., 1883, pp. 397-404; 'Über Lagergänge,' *Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg.* Vol. XLIV., 1885; 'Studien über Thonschiefer, Gangthonschiefer und Serizitschiefer,' *Jahrb. d. pr. geol. Landesanst.*, 1885, pp. 1-52.—W. v. GÜMBEL. 'Geologische Bemerkungen über die Thermen von Gasten und ihre Umgebung,' *Sitzungsber. d. bayr. Akad. d. Wiss.*, 1889, pp. 341-408.—C. A. HERRING. *Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg.* Vol. LIV., 1895, p. 215.—A. W. G. BLEECK. 'Die Kupferkiesgänge von Mitterberg in Salzburg,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1906, pp. 365-370.—MUCH. *Das vorgeschichtliche Kupferbergwerk auf dem Mitterberg bei Bischofshofen*, 1879; *Die Kupferzeit in Europa*, 1886.—KRUSCH. *Some Investigations.*

The Bischofshofen copper district near Salzburg, situated about 1500 m. above sea-level, has long been known not only for its copper deposits but also for those of siderite. The district consists in greater part of Alpine Werfen beds,<sup>1</sup> greatly disturbed by subsequent tectonics. According to Groddeck and Bleeck who have petrographically examined these beds, they consist chiefly of sericite-schist with ottrelite, quartz, and crystalline carbonates; Bleeck is of opinion that they represent contact-metamorphic clay-slates, sandstones, and quartz-porphry.

In these beds a large number of steep bedded lodes, usually 1-3 m. thick, occur, these being principally cupriferous siderite lodes. These lodes when possessing a low copper content were worked for iron, and when the content was high, for copper. In the case of old mines therefore, it is not always possible to determine whether such are old iron mines abandoned owing to increase of copper in depth, or copper mines in which the copper in depth gave place to siderite.

The conformity between the lodes and the frequently transversely schistose rocks is often so pronounced that these lodes have been occasionally regarded as sedimentary beds. Their epigenetic character is apparent

<sup>1</sup> Triassic.

however, partly in small penetrations of the schists by the lodes, and partly in the occurrence of numerous fragments of country-rock in the lode mass.

The disturbances which these lodes have suffered are just as varied as those of Siegerland, folds, faults, lateral displacements, overthrusts, and vertical displacements, all being present. Folds arose when after the formation of the lode the entire complex suffered further plication. When such are present the lode mass is usually traversed by numerous fracture planes, since this mass offered more resistance than the schists of the country-rock. The unravelling of folds is simple because as a rule no break in the continuity of the lode occurs. Faults and overthrusts call for no particular mention. Lateral displacements on the other hand, brought about by horizontal pressure and usually exhibiting no concomitant subsidence, are as interesting as the vertical displacements. These latter present phenomena similar to the shallow faults of Siegerland.

The primary ore is chalcopyrite, which, where the lode-filling has suffered no subsequent alteration, occurs in quartziferous siderite or ankerite, with a variable pyrite content. Chloantite, erythrite, arsenopyrite, and some quicksilver-tetrahedrite which readily decomposes with the formation of cinnabar, occur subordinately.

According to Bleeck two types of lode may be differentiated, namely, quartz-chalcopyrite lodes and quartz-ankerite lodes, the last-named being the younger. In both cases the country-rock is impregnated with chalcopyrite and pyrite.

Krusch considers it may be conclusively proved that a repeated re-opening of the lode fissure took place, and that the first filling consisted principally of ankerite and siderite, and subordinately of quartz, chalcopyrite, and pyrite. During a second period of tectonic disturbance, silicic acid solutions circulating through the re-opened fissures entered the ore mass and metasomatically replaced the carbonates. As a result of this period of silicification, in addition to younger quartz veins formed directly from these solutions, all gradations between the old carbonate lodes and the quartz lodes formed by replacement of the carbonates, are found. From the disposition and individual arrangement of carbonates remaining in the quartz, it may frequently be proved that originally the entire filling was carbonate. A part of the sulphides, and presumably also of the chalcopyrite, being still younger than the quartz must owe its existence to a third opening of the lode fissure. In this connection therefore there exists a great analogy between the districts of Siegerland and Mitterberg.

The geological position is especially complicated when a younger quartz vein not owing its formation to internal metasomatism, intersects

an older secondarily formed quartz lode. In such case the most careful observation is necessary in order to distinguish between the two occurrences.

With regard to the sericite, ottrelite, etc. of the country-rock, it may be said with some certainty that these were formed by hydrothermal processes.

In addition to the lodes worked in the principal mine at Mitterberg, analogous deposits have been developed to the south, the most important of which are the Brand and Buchberg lodes.

Mining at Mitterberg, as already indicated, was an industry in very ancient times. From the second century A.D. however, and for a period of about 1500 years, the district lay idle. Present operations, which with an annual production of about 1200–1800 tons make this occurrence the most important copper deposit in Austria, date back to 1827.

The silver content, which may reach 150 grm. per ton of ore, is also interesting.

#### THE BEDDED LODS OF KITZBÜHEL IN THE TYROL

##### LITERATURE

P. M. STAFFE. 'Geognostische Notizen über einige alpinische Kupfererzlagertstätten,' Berg- u. Hüttenm. Ztg. Vol. XXIV., 1865.—F. POŠERNÝ. 'Die Erzlagertstätten von Kitzbühel in Tirol und dem angrenzenden Teile Salzburgs,' Archiv f. prakt. Geol., 1880, Vol. I. p. 257.—G. DÖRLER. Bilder von den Kupferkieslagertstätten bei Kitzbühel und den Schwefellagertstätten bei Swoszowice, Minister for Agriculture, Vienna, 1890.—Geological map by Professor v. Joachimsthal, 1891.

The Silurian formation in the Kitzbühel district consists of grauwacke-slates, slaty grauwackes, clay-slates, and clay-mica-slates, all of which generally speaking strike east-west. The carriers of the copper are the clay-slates. Of the numerous occurrences in this district, till a short time back only those on the Schattberg, in the Kupferplatte, and on the Kelchalpe, were worked.

The lodes on the Schattberg lie conformably to the clay-slates, which dip 25°–80°, strike east-west, and are overlaid with thick detritus and diluvial beds. These lodes, according to Dörler, represent a complex of lode-like fillings of fissures following the variable strike and dip, and adapting themselves to the bends and folds of the slates. Like the slates the lodes are so crushed, contorted, faulted, and thrust against one another, that pieces of one and the same lode have at times been regarded as separate parallel deposits.

The principal lodes, which in width vary from a few centimetres up to 4 m., are sharply separated on both walls from the country-rock, into which however they send many veins or leaders. The filling consists in general of ankerite with large masses of grey and black slate, between which are found nests and veins of milky-white quartz and chalcopyrite.

The ore occurs, either as an impregnation, or in compact masses on the hanging-wall and foot-wall, or, again, distributed irregularly in stringers and pockets. Tetrahedrite and millerite are uncommon.

The lodes in the Kupferplatte at Lochberg likewise in general coincide in strike and dip with the country-rock.

The geological position of those on the Kelchalpe is similar. The country consists of Silurian clay-slates and clay-mica slates. The so-called *Falkenschiefer* are especially interesting, these being the yellowish-grey, light-coloured, and seldom reddish clay-slates with quartz flakes parallel to the cleavage, associated exclusively with the ore-occurrences. The copper deposit reaches a width of 4 m., strikes north-east, and dips 30° towards the east. The lode-filling consists principally of ankerite, quartz, and *Falkenschiefer*, as gangue, and pyrite, niccolite, chloantite, sphalerite, and galena, as the valuable minerals.

Mining at Kitzbühel, now no longer of any importance, dates back to the eighteenth century. The copper production of the Tyrol has in recent years amounted to about 700 tons annually.

## THE COPPER LODES OF THE KAMSDORF DISTRICT

### LITERATURE

F. BEYSCHLAG. 'Die Erzlagerstätten der Umgegend von Kamsdorf in Thüringen,' Jahrb. d. k. pr. geol. Landesanst., 1888.

In the Zechstein area east of the river Saal, between Saalfeld and Könitz, continuations of the northern Thuringian Forest boundary-faults are found. Such fissures, striking south-east and dipping 50°–80° north-east, have Triassic, Permian, and Culm, as country-rock. Mineralization is however limited to that portion of their extent between the faulted portions of the Weissliegendes and the Zechstein dolomite, the richest section being between the faulted Kupferschiefer terminals. The ore, occurring in irregular pocket-like accumulations, consists of tetrahedrite, chalcopyrite, cuprite, malachite, azurite, and, principally on the Roter Berg, of cobalt- and nickel ores. The gangue-minerals are, siderite, limonite, barite, and calcite. Asphalt occurs as the result of pressure upon bituminous slates.

From these lodes the bed-like metasomatic alteration of the Zechstein limestone and dolomite, which has been more fully described in the chapter on metasomatic iron ores,<sup>1</sup> proceeded. In these metasomatic deposits, not far from the lodes, nests and pockets of compact tetrahedrite have been found.

The production of this district is small.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 835.

## THE METASOMATIC COPPER DEPOSITS

IN connection with copper lodes metasomatic deposits may be formed, especially when the country-rock consists, in part at least, of limestone or dolomite. Since this condition however is more rarely fulfilled in nature than those necessary to the formation of lodes, there are but few places where copper deposits of this type are exploited. With such deposits the replacement of the limestone is more or less complete, though as yet no case is known where a limestone bed has been entirely replaced.

The form of these deposits is consequently always irregular; pipes and chimneys exist which in regard to their extent along the strike are dependent upon fissures, fractures, and bedding-planes. Since the thickness of the bed undergoing alteration, especially if it be limestone, is usually limited, in the case of undisturbed bedding no material extension in depth is, generally speaking, possible. Where extension in this direction is encountered, it is due to tilting of the beds, such as may have taken place before or after the formation of the deposit.

The distribution of the ore is irregular, the most important copper enrichments being not infrequently found in the vicinity of lode fissures.

The primary minerals are as a rule pyrite and chalcopyrite, though other sulphides such as galena and sphalerite also occur. In keeping with the nature of the origin of these deposits, carbonates predominate among the gangue-minerals. The structure is generally irregular-coarse.

As with most metasomatic deposits, the primary depth-zones are generally limited to an alternation of poorer and richer zones, this alternation being frequently connected with the varying degree of replacement the individual beds comprising the limestone formation have suffered.

Secondary depth-zones, on the other hand, are of great importance, since copper ores are pronouncedly prone to migrate<sup>1</sup> and the country-rock, consisting in part at least of limestone, favours such migration. Oxidation and cementation zones of considerable thickness, and in striking disproportion to the size of the primary deposit, may therefore be formed. In such

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 89-92, 216.

cases not only is the limestone practically completely replaced, but also any eruptive rock associated with it, as for instance aplite and kersantite at Otavi. Should other sulphides occur together with the copper in the primary zone, these act reducingly upon the secondarily-formed descending heavy-metal solutions. In this manner and over a long period a pronounced copper cementation zone may be formed, even with such metasomatic deposits as originally carried principally galena and sphalerite and but little copper.

The accessory precious-metal content in copper deposits may be very considerable. While such accessory silver content may be considerable and constitute a substantial part of the production, the gold content is less important. It has already been pointed out<sup>1</sup> that gradations between copper- and silver deposits exist.

From the close connection between metasomatic copper deposits and copper lodes it follows that in the principal lode districts subordinate metasomatic deposits also occur, such as a rule having been formed by the alteration of limestone. Unavoidably therefore, a number of metasomatic deposits were mentioned when describing the copper lodes; further description of this subordinate class will accordingly here be confined to the deposits at Massa Marittima, Boccheggiano, Otavi, and Katanga.

#### MASSA MARITTIMA, BOCCHEGGIANO, AND THE ADJACENT DEPOSITS IN TUSCANY

##### LITERATURE

B. LOTTI. *Descrizione geol.-miner. di Massa Marittima*, Geol. Survey Dept., Italy, 1893; *Geologia della Toscana*, Geol. Survey Dept., Italy, 1910; I *Depositi dei minerali metalliferi*, Turin, 1903.—K. ERMISCH. 'Die gangförmigen Erzlagerstätten der Umgebung von Massa Marittima in Toskana auf Grund der Lottischen Untersuchungen,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1905, pp. 206-239.—L. DE LAUNAY. *La Métallogénie de l'Italie*, Report of the 10th Intern. Geol. Congress, Mexico, 1906. A number of treatises are cited in these works including those by Savi, Pilla, Cailleux, Meneghini, G. v. Rath, Serpieri, Novarese, Corteze, etc.

The deposits of the 'Massetana Metal Province' lie within an area of 450 square kilometres. North of this district are found the boracic acid springs of Sasso and Monte Rotondo; to the south-east, the quicksilver district of Monte Amiata;<sup>2</sup> and to the west, the contact-deposits and tin occurrence of Campiglia Marittima,<sup>3</sup> the copper mines of Monte Catini,<sup>4</sup> and the contact-deposits of Elba, etc.<sup>5</sup>

The Massetana district consists principally of folded and faulted Permian phyllites, Rhaetic, Liassic limestone, and Eocene, with a small extent of Tertiary eruptives, including gabbro—euphotide—serpentine, etc.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 163, 164.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 471-474.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, pp. 409-411.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, pp. 300, 301.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, pp. 369-372.



The numerous deposits may be grouped as follows :

1. True fissure lodes, which are often faults and frequently display internal metasomatism of the original brecciated filling. With these the country-rock is more or less highly altered.

2. Lode-like deposits connected with metasomatic occurrences, true fissure-fillings being subordinate.

3. Non-lode-like deposits of lenticular or pocket form, these being in greater part purely metasomatic. Such deposits are most closely associated with calcareous rocks—the ‘metalliferous limestone’ of the Rhaetic or Lias, for instance—and are principally ferruginous zinc-carbonate deposits.

Groups 1 and 2 especially are closely associated with each other. Most of the deposits, or perhaps all, occur along four large N.N.W.-N.

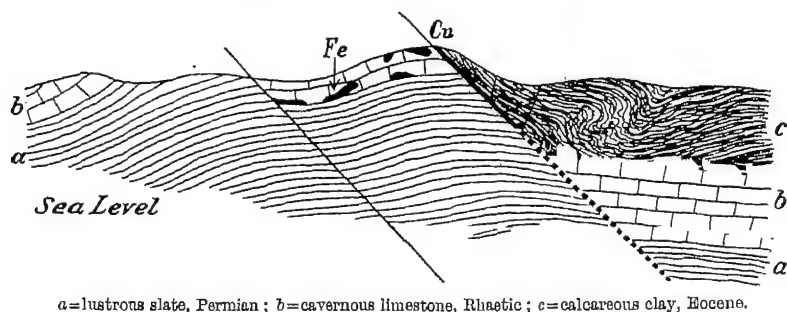


FIG. 390.—Section of the copper lode accompanying metasomatic limonite deposits at Boccheggiano. Lotti; see also Ermisch, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1895, p. 229.

striking faults, namely, (a) the south Serrabottini, (b) the Capanne Vecchi, (c) the Montoccoli, and (d) the Boccheggiano. The section at Boccheggiano given in Fig. 390, illustrates this connection between fault and deposit. Among other deposits of this type, those at Serrabottini, Capanne Vecchie, Carbonaie-Valdaspra, Montieri, and Montevecchio deserve mention.

Many lodes, as for instance those at Boccheggiano, belong to the type of quartzose copper deposits; they carry cupriferous pyrite, some galena, sphalerite, etc. Others have more the character of the sulphide lead-zinc deposits, though, containing a large amount of chalcopyrite, they represent the cupriferous facies of that group.

The latter, as pointed out long ago by Stelzner<sup>1</sup> and later by Ermisch, frequently exhibit a striking resemblance to the sulphide lead group at Freiberg, even though Archaean gneiss there constitutes the country-rock whereas in the case of the Italian occurrences that rock consists of young

<sup>1</sup> *Berg- und Hüttenm. Ztg.*, 1877, No. 11.

clay-slate. This fact is the plainest proof that the metalliferous filling could not have been derived from the country-rock.

The best known deposits are those at Massa Marittima and Boccheggiano.

At Massa Marittima and at Poggio Guardione normal lodes occur in Eocene marls, such lodes carrying pyrite, chalcopyrite, a little sphalerite, and galena, in a quartzose gangue containing coarse-grained calcite in subordinate amount.

The famous Boccheggiano deposits belonging to the Monte Catini company are situated in the neighbourhood of the important town of Montieri, in the Massetana hinterland. The 1-25 m. wide quartz lode, impregnated with pyrite and chalcopyrite, strikes N.N.W. and dips 40° to the east. It extends along the contact of Eocene with Permian and Rhaetic, and may be followed for a length of 3 km., from the Farmulla river to the Merse Savioli. The ore in general has a banded structure.

According to the mineral-association two belts may be differentiated, namely, a southern stretching from the Farmulla river to Boccheggiano, a distance of 1.3 km.; and a northern from Boccheggiano to the Merse Savioli river, 1.7 kilometres.

The mineralization of the former is very variable. While formerly sphalerite, argentiferous galena, and zinc carbonate were won, to-day two chimneys containing clean chalcopyrite, galena, and sphalerite, are known. The greater portion of the work is now centred upon three inclined ore-shoots. The difference in depth between the highest and lowest levels is approximately 250 metres. A small amount of tin to the extent of 1 of tin to 80 of copper is interesting. In April 1910 a boracic acid spring, having a temperature over 40° C. and emitting 30 litres per second, was encountered in depth. The hindrance caused by this spring finally led to the abandonment of operations.

An invariable metamorphism of the country-rock is especially characteristic, this rock being frequently silicified, decarbonated, and impregnated with chalcopyrite and pyrite, etc. In other places epidotization is encountered; and finally, though infrequently, an alteration to pyroxene, garnet, and epidote, accompanied at times even by lievrite. This mineral-association has much in common therefore with contact-metamorphism.

The average yearly production of Boccheggiano, according to Lotti, amounts to 35,000-36,000 tons. The different qualities of ore with their average content may be gathered from the following table:

AVERAGE YEARLY PRODUCTION OF THE BOCCHEGGIANO MINE, 1895-1904			
Rich copper ore	with 31.97 % S and 10.16 % Cu:	4,328 tons.	
Rich sulphur-ore (cupriferous pyrite)	„ 40.48 % S „ 3.44 % Cu:	6,863 „	
Poor ore (quartzose)	„ 24.19 % S „ 2.65 % Cu:	25,570 „	

General Manager Marengo gave the production for 1904 as follows :

Rich coppér ore	with 9.0 % Cu, 32 % S and 28 % SiO <sub>2</sub> :	3,800 tons.
Rich sulphur-ore	„ 3.3 % Cu, 40 % S „ 18 % SiO <sub>2</sub> :	12,000 „
Poor ore	„ 2.5 % Cu, 24 % S „ 45 % SiO <sub>2</sub> :	21,000 „

The genesis of these deposits is, according to Lotti, as follows : As after-effects of the great mountain-forming movements at the end of the Eocene period, fissures and fissure-systems were formed in Massetana and in the neighbouring districts of Campiglia, Elba, etc., along which eruptive magmas in part, but heavy-metal solutions principally, entered. These circulated either along the fissures, bringing about the formation of the lodes, or penetrated laterally into the country-rock principally along the bedding-planes, thereby metasomatically replacing the alterable calcareous rocks. The whole process, according to Lotti, was completed in the Miocene period.

Mining in Massetana is extremely old, its zenith having lasted from 1200 to the time of the Great Plague in 1348, after which followed a period of decline. Operations were however renewed with energy at the close of the nineteenth century, but the industry is again in decline and the Boccheggiano mine was recently shut down.

The copper production of Italy from 1879 to 1883 was at the rate of 1200–1600 tons per year, and from 1884 to 1895 roughly 2500 tons ; this rate increased later to 3000 tons, till operations in Boccheggiano were discontinued, when it fell considerably, this mine having been responsible for a considerable portion of the annual output. In 1911 the total output was 2600 tons.

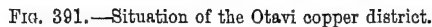
## THE OTAVI DEPOSIT, GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

### LITERATURE

FRANCIS GALTON. *Travels in Tropical Africa, 1852.*—H. SCHINZ. *Deutsche Südwestafrika.* Oldenburg, 1891.—P. A. WAGNER. 'The Geology of a Portion of the Grootfontein-District of German South-West Africa,' *Trans. Geol. Soc. S. Africa*, 1900, Vol. VIII.—J. KUNTZ. 'Kupfererzorkommen in Südwestafrika,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1904, p. 402.—W. MAUCHER. 'Die Erzlagerstätte von Tsumeb im Otavi-Bezirk im Norden Deutsch-Südwestafrikas,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1908.—P. KRUSCH. 'Die genetischen Verhältnisse der Kupfererzorkommen von Otavi,' *Zeit. d. d. geol. Ges.*, 1911, p. 240, Part 2.

Otavi is situated in the Otavi hills in the north of Hereroland, about 550 km. from the coast. These hills consist chiefly of dolomite in east-west folds, the flanks of which incline sometimes to the north and sometimes to the south. Certain beds of the Otavi dolomite favour the formation of caves, these latter being mostly empty but occasionally filled with water. The Otjikoto lake, south-west of Tsumeb, which supplies the necessary

In the Otavi hills copper ore is found in four different places, namely, on the northern slope at Tsumeb, and on the southern slope at Gross Otavi, Klein Otavi, and Guchab, these places being indicated in Fig. 391.



The deposits at Klein Otavi and at Guchab in the Otavi valley, near

Kilometre 54 of the Otavi-Grootfontein railway, are more compact. According to Kuntz, at these places one particular dolomite bed appears to have been especially suited for alteration to ore.

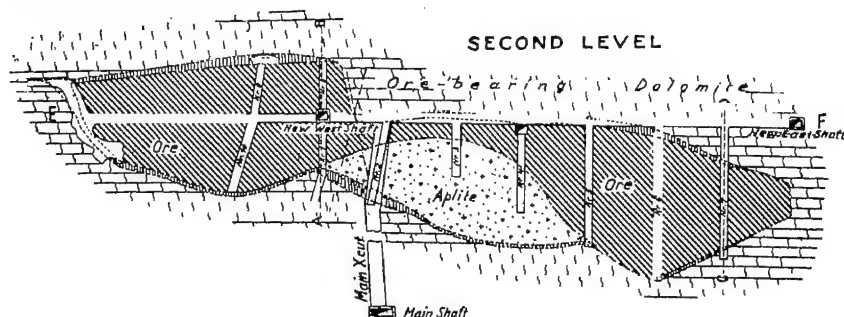


FIG. 392.—Plan of the copper deposit on the second level of the Otavi mine.

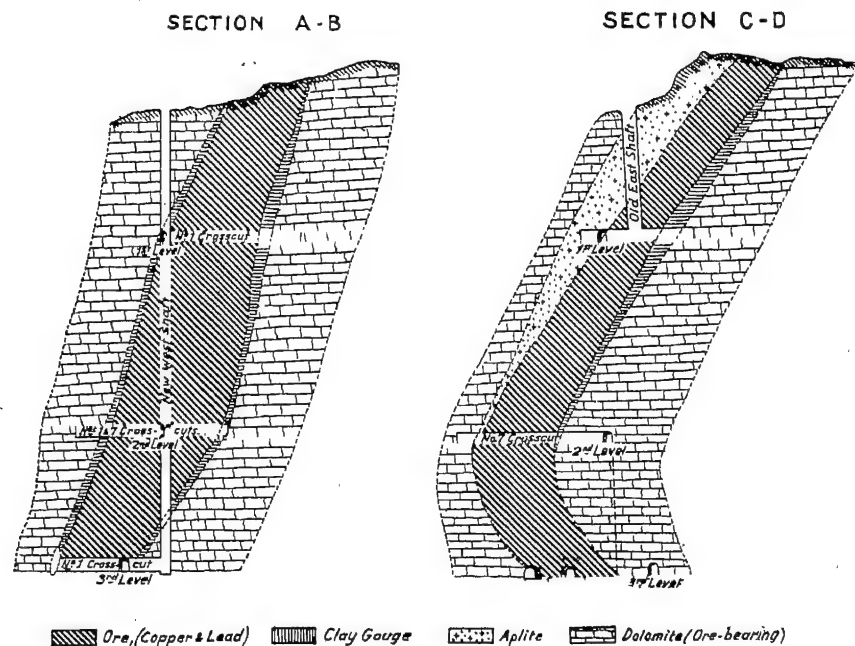


FIG. 393.—Sections of the Otavi deposit.

Without doubt the most important occurrence is that at Tsumeb on the northern slope of the Otavi hills, where a green copper-stained hill rises abruptly out of the Otavi dolomite. Kuntz at the time of his visit estimated the ore-bearing area to be 200 paces along the strike and 40 paces to the dip. Both dolomite and deposit, as illustrated in Fig. 393,

dip steeply to the south, though the eastern portion of the latter turns in depth to dip towards the north. Here also the ore favours an apparently less resistant dolomite bed. As indicated in Fig. 392, two ore-bodies may be distinguished, namely, an eastern and a western. These are connected in the centre by a contracted width of ore, the remainder of the width being occupied in greater part by the above-mentioned aplite. The separation of the ore and aplite from the dolomite is formed by a clay-parting or gouge. The contraction of the ore-body increases from the surface downwards. The length along the strike of both eastern and western bodies diminishes somewhat in depth, where also, in 1911, between the third and fourth levels a fault was met, though this was subsequently unravelled. From the latest reports of the Otavi company it would appear that the aplite likewise diminishes in depth. The Otavi dolomite, the ore-body, and the aplite, are all crossed by olivine-kersantite.

In regard to the genesis of these deposits two features are particularly worthy of attention, namely, the gouge which separates the ore and aplite from the dolomite; and the gradual passage from aplite to ore.

According to R. Scheibe the deposit strikes on the whole east-west, at an oblique angle with the limestone beds, and dips  $50^{\circ}$ – $70^{\circ}$  to the south.

The mineralization, so far known to a depth of about 100 m., is not simple. The ore occurs chiefly at the contact of aplite and dolomite, where, on the one hand, compact masses of ore contain veins of aplite and silicified dolomite, and on the other, veins of ore penetrate both dolomite and aplite. On the third level in the eastern portion of the deposit, a rich bunch of ore was found in the centre of the aplite.

The width of the ore-body, though subject to considerable variation, is often 20 metres or more. The eastern portion is richer in lead but poorer in copper, ore containing 6–14 per cent of copper predominating; the western portion, on the other hand, is richer in copper, the ore containing 12–15 per cent.

The mineral-association, as first pointed out by Maucher, consists of sulphide ores and their oxidation products. The latter he divides into secondary ores, the immediate result of the oxidation of the primary, and tertiary ores. These tertiary ores represent a chemical alteration of the secondary ores, in effecting which distinct evidence of the participation of the country-rock may be observed. The oxidized ores, among which malachite and azurite occur most frequently, contain on an average 12.9 per cent of copper and 4.4 per cent of lead. Among what Maucher considers as primary ores, are massive intergrowths of chalcocite, enargite, galena, sphalerite, and pyrite, though Krusch considers these in greater part to be cementation ores.

The distribution of the ore-minerals is such that the middle portion of

the deposit, the ore-body proper, consists of compact sulphide exhibiting no drusy cavities whatever. The ore-minerals in the aplite, as long as that eruptive rock is still recognizable, are found in greater part along fractures; among them linarite occurs most frequently. While in the foot-wall portion of the deposit malachite and azurite predominate.

Concerning genesis, Macco considers that at Otavi only two possibilities exist, namely, the deposits are either fissure-fillings accompanied by metasomatic replacement of the dolomite, or the fillings of irregular cavities. Maucher on the other hand endeavours to prove that the deposit at Tsumeb is a magmatic segregation. In determining the seniority of the various minerals he considers exclusively the question of the fusion-point, namely, that this becomes substantially lower when sulphide components are dissolved in each other. Stutzer concludes that metasomatic replacement took place and that mineralization is to be ascribed to aqueous solutions. W. Voit, after mentioning those characteristics which appear to be opposed both to magmatic segregation and metasomatism, finally sees no reason for doubting Maucher's conclusion. Range favours the idea of a cavity-filling accompanied by metasomatism as that term has hitherto been understood, while P. A. Wagner holds a similar opinion, believing a replacement of the dolomitic limestone to have taken place.

According to Krusch, metasomatism undoubtedly played an important part, though he emphasizes the necessity of distinguishing between primary and secondary metasomatism.

Metasomatism as hitherto understood—that is primary metasomatism, consisting principally of a replacement of the limestone and dolomite—is possible at Tsumeb, though proof is not at present available and can only be obtained by development in greater depth. In any case, according to microscopic slides, the principal portion of the chalcocite does not belong to the primary metasomatic ore-minerals, and, accordingly, secondary metasomatic processes, that is, cementation- and oxidation-metasomatism, must be responsible. The former at Otavi is considerably more subordinate than the latter, and is expressed chiefly in the replacement of olivine-kersantite and to a less extent of aplite and dolomite, by malachite and azurite. The bulk of the chalcocite however was undoubtedly formed by cementation-metasomatism, that at Tsumeb being deposited on galena, sphalerite, and pyrite to such an extent that these primary sulphides are almost completely replaced. The replacement in the eastern body was less complete and a plumbiferous ore resulted; in the western body the copper ore is purer. In this process the influence of the country-rock is shown by the replacement of dolomite and aplite, by ore. In the case of the alteration of the aplite, adsorption must have played an important part since the resultant chalcocite contains kaolinized felspars.

Reviewing all the facts there appears to be at Tsumeb a zone of fracture along which apparently an aplite body so subsided as to form in depth a wedge within the Otavi dolomite; the amount of such subsidence need not necessarily have been very great. The absence of all contact phenomena speaks against an intrusion of magma *in situ*.

The occasionally disturbed bedding of the dolomite supports this assumption of a fracture zone, as does also the oblique angle, observed by Scheibe, which the ore-body makes with the strike of the dolomite. Along this zone the heavy-metal solutions to which the primary minerals—the number of which is not yet fully known—owe their existence, probably circulated. These minerals presumably are likewise in part metasomatic. The oxidation and cementation processes resulted from the action of meteoric waters, and as far as oxidation is concerned such processes are still proceeding. It is interesting to note that the chalcocite is younger than the frequently-observed silicification of the dolomite.

The economic importance of the Otavi deposit may be gathered from the following statements. At the end of the book-year 1907–1908, apart from the irregular dolomite- and aplite ore-bodies—the so-called sandstone ores—containing about 7–8 per cent of copper and 5–6 per cent of lead, 313,000 tons of ore containing 16 per cent of copper and 25 per cent of lead were proved. In the same year 25,700 tons of ore were raised, of which 60 per cent was export ore containing about 18 per cent of copper, approximately 30 per cent smelting ore containing 12 per cent, leaving 10 per cent as ore placed on the dump.

In that year about 15,000 tons of Tsumeb ore containing 0.035 per cent of silver,<sup>1</sup> 19 per cent of copper, and 23 per cent of lead, were shipped; while 3500 tons were smelted on the spot, this total including 2100 tons assaying about 10 per cent of copper and 18 per cent of lead, and 1400 tons of plumbiferous ore assaying 55 per cent of lead and 12 per cent of copper.

During the year 1908–1909, the 13–15 m. wide deposit produced 44,250 tons of ore, of which 27,000 tons were export ore containing 17 per cent of copper, 30 per cent of lead, and 0.033 per cent of silver;<sup>2</sup> while during the next year, 1909–1910, the production reached 49,500 tons, of which 44,770 tons came from Tsumeb. In that year also, 33,500 tons containing 16 per cent of copper, 26 per cent of lead, and 0.028 per cent of silver,<sup>3</sup> were exported.

Guchab in the year 1907–1908, produced 1800 tons of argentiferous copper ore containing on an average 0.04 per cent of silver<sup>4</sup> and 33 per cent of copper; while in the following year the production was 500 tons contain-

<sup>1</sup> 350 grm. per ton.

<sup>3</sup> 280 grm. per ton.

<sup>2</sup> 330 grm. per ton.

<sup>4</sup> 400 grm. per ton.



ing 29 per cent of copper and 0.032 per cent of silver.<sup>1</sup> Klein Otavi in the year 1908–1909 yielded 200 tons with 27 per cent of copper and 0.029 per cent of silver ;<sup>2</sup> while Gross-Otavi in the following year yielded some ore containing 40 per cent of copper.

## THE COPPER DEPOSITS AT KATANGA IN THE BELGIAN CONGO

### LITERATURE

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The district of Katanga in the Belgian Congo, around and within which numerous exploring expeditions are at present active, has become better known since the construction of the railway from Rhodesia to Elizabethville. It is in the neighbourhood of this latter town that the principal deposits are found.

The geological conditions of the district were first investigated\* by Cornet, who from 1891 to 1893 accompanied the Bia-Francqui expedition. The fundamental rocks consist of folded and in part metamorphosed sediments and eruptives, the exact age of which, owing to the absence of fossils, has not yet been possible of determination.

The most important copper deposit in this district is the Étoile du Congo near Elizabethville. This occurs, striking north-south, in non-metamorphosed sediments, which in the southern portion of the deposit dip steeply to the west, a dip however which towards the north passes gradually over to one steeply to the east. The country-rock consists chiefly of slate, within which, marking the centre of the deposit, a porous quartzite some 10 m. thick is intercalated. Dolomite occurs farther in the foot-wall and hanging-wall. The slate is sometimes typical clay-slate and sometimes more arenaceous or calcareous. It is almost invariably much decomposed, this decomposition consisting in kaolinization or an impregnation with ore. Its colour accordingly varies between white, black, green, blue, and red.

The most remarkable of these rocks, according to Stutzer, is the extremely hard, grey-coloured, porous quartzite which strikes parallel with the slates. The cavities in this rock are sometimes as large as an egg. They are filled with malachite and other copper minerals. Crystal casts are evidence of pre-existing carbonates. The dolomite is coarsely-crystalline,

<sup>1</sup> 320 grm. per ton.

<sup>2</sup> 290 grm. per ton.

merging on the east side of the deposit and in the vicinity of the ore-bearing slate, into compact calcareous schist. On the west side it is covered by irregular pocket-like depressions of so-called 'black ore.'

The most important minerals are chalcocite and malachite; chrysocolla occurs frequently, while azurite is subordinate. The chalcocite occurs in the form of masses and compact veins in all rocks, but preferably in the kaolinized white slate. It is also the principal constituent of the so-called 'black ore,' this being a dark or black earthy mass coloured by the chalcocite and containing in addition, cobalt, iron, manganese, and some nickel. Stutzer explains the 'black ore' as being in part a decomposition product of the impregnated clay-slate, and in part old mine-filling. This deposit in former times was worked in the most primitive manner by the natives, who by means of small shafts sought the malachite only, while using the chalcocite-ore as filling. This became mixed with the other fine waste material eventually to form 'black ore.'

The second most important mineral is malachite, which occurs along fractures and in crevices, or as impregnations. Occasionally in the larger cavities it forms kidney-shaped or stalactitic, beautifully banded masses. At the southern end of the deposit a bright-coloured ore-breccia, consisting of fragments of red slate with dark green glass-like chrysocolla and light green malachite as cementing materials, occurs in the red arenaceous slates. From the banded structure it is seen that the chrysocolla is of somewhat greater age than the malachite.

Azurite and chalcopyrite are uncommon. The latter in the upper levels occurs only in minute grains, while in greater depth it is more plentiful and associated with pyrite. In addition, numerous secondary copper minerals which have not yet been determined, also occur.

Concerning genesis, this deposit, according to Stutzer, is one where the minerals as now found are not in the place of their original deposition, though any considerable migration can hardly have taken place. The deposit consists of an extensive oxidation zone, under which follows a zone of cementation. The primary ores were undoubtedly sulphides, though the determination of the parent rock is difficult. Stutzer considers the quartzite to have been the parent rock, the occurrence of this quartzite according to him being lode-like.

If this view be correct the Étoile du Congo deposit represents the gossan of a bedded lode containing primary sulphides and carrying as gangue, quartz chiefly and carbonate subordinately. At the decomposition of the primary ores solutions became formed which sank principally into the kaolinized clay-slate, where adsorption of their heavy-metal content took place. Since, according to Krusch, with adsorption, replacement also plays an important part, this deposit is closely related to that at Otavi;

both are large accumulations of oxidation and cementation ores, and in both the country-rock has in the highest degree been replaced by the heavy-metal constituents of solutions resulting from atmospheric agencies.

The large quantities of copper which this deposit has been estimated to contain need confirmation.

### THE PYRITE AND ARSENOPYRITE LODES

As previously stated,<sup>1</sup> the principal pyrite deposits belong not to the lodes but to the intrusive pyrite group. Although in both cases these are cavity-fillings, the intrusive deposits differ from the lodes in two respects; firstly, in the form of the occurrence, which in the case of lodes is tabular, while with the intrusive deposits the lenticular form is common; and secondly, in regard to genesis. While the lode-filling owes its existence to aqueous solutions, the intrusive deposits represent the entrance of sulphide magma. Gradations between these two geneses naturally occur, as when for instance the sulphide magma contained large quantities of water. Arsenopyrite is frequently associated with pyrite in lodes, the relative quantities of the two minerals being very variable, the former sometimes predominating.

Owing to the enormous ore-reserves sometimes associated with intrusive deposits—the Huelva district alone produces about 3,200,000 tons yearly, and mines having a yearly production of 50,000 tons are classed among the smaller occurrences—the conditions imposed upon pyrite lodes in respect to their payability press very hard. The width must be great and the material very pure in order that the occurrence may compete with the gigantic intrusive deposits.

In consequence of the small number of pyrite- and arsenopyrite lodes which have yet been exploited, few facts concerning their extent in depth are available. Seeing however that other lodes having but little pyrite in the upper levels contain a larger amount of this mineral in depth,<sup>2</sup> the conclusion may be drawn that clean pyrite lodes also may continue ore-bearing down to a considerable depth. Since the market only accepts fairly clean material, the exploitation of pyrite lodes can only be entertained when the filling consists almost exclusively of this mineral. The usual gangue-mineral is quartz, crystalline carbonates being very subordinate. The structure is mostly irregularly coarse.

With these lodes secondary depth-zones are important. In the

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 301.

<sup>2</sup> See copper lodes, p. 905.

neighbourhood of the surface and down to a depth of 20–30 m. or more, the pyrite is frequently altered to limonite characterized by great purity. The result is, that when developments have not proceeded sufficiently in depth, evidence that this limonite has resulted from the alteration of the sulphide ore existing in depth is only forthcoming in the characteristic decomposition of the country-rock. In the process of oxidation the sulphur of the pyrite is removed, while no sulphide-enrichment zone between the oxidation and primary zones is known. The gossan, it is true, may still contain some sulphur, though often it is so completely free from this element that without further thought it may be smelted for iron. Arsenopyrite is similarly oxidized to limonite and, again, no arsenocementation ores are known.

The subordinate gold, silver, copper, and tin, existing as accessory constituents of these lodes, are of great interest. Minimal amounts of gold are often found. Should the gold content increase, say, to at least 5 grm. per ton, and sufficient reserves be available, such pyrite and arsenopyrite lodes may become payable gold deposits. The silver content of both these pyritic sulphides frequently reaches 30–50 grm. per ton, and may sometimes be so high that silver becomes the chief object of the mining operations. The pyrite lodes must then be reckoned with the silver lodes. That this may also be the case in respect to the copper content of the lode was indicated when discussing the copper deposits; a pyrite lode containing 2.5 per cent of copper must without doubt be reckoned among the copper deposits. In Bolivia, tin is largely associated with pyrite, a pyrite lode containing 7 per cent of tin being regarded as a tin lode. There are therefore numerous gradations between pyrite lodes on the one hand, and certain precious-metal-, copper-, and tin lodes on the other.

In the formation of secondary depth-zones this original accessory heavy-metal content becomes concentrated as a cementation zone between the oxidation zone—which in all cases consists of limonite—and the primary zone, this cementation zone carrying either much gold or silver, or rich copper ores such as bornite and chalcocite. Exceptionally, the tin content in the form of wood-tin appears to be confined to the oxidation zone.

In many cases the pyrite is somewhat arseniferous, and since arsenic greatly depreciates the value of pyrite any analyses should always be extended to include that element. Similarly, with arsenopyrite the occurrence of pyrite, which often happens, is harmful.

Large pyrite lodes are not, so far as is known, at present being worked, since large concentrations of this mineral are only exceptionally found in lode fissures. The mines working such deposits are therefore mostly small.

The pyrite produced to-day in order to be first-class must contain 45–50 per cent of sulphur; low-grade pyrite contains 40–45 per cent, while poor pyrite contains 35–40 per cent. Pyrite with less than 35 per cent of sulphur only finds a purchaser in special cases, as for instance when the occurrence is exceptionally favourably situated in respect to the place where it would be applied.

The price of the pyrite depends upon the arsenic content; in the case of very good pyrite it varies between  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per unit of sulphur. Arseniferous pyrite as a rule does not fetch more than  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per unit.

### ROTHENZECHAU IN THE RIESENGBERGE

#### LITERATURE

H. TRAUBE. Die Minerale Schlesiens, 1888.—J. ROTH. Erläuterungen zu der geognostischen Karte vom niederschlesischen Gebirge und den umliegenden Gegenden, 1867.—v. FESTENBERG-PACKISCH. Der metallische Bergbau Niederschlesiens, 1881.—A. SACHS. Die Bodenschätze Schlesiens, Erze, Kohle, nutzbare Gesteine, 1906.—v. DECHEN, revised by BRUHNS. Die nutzbaren Mineralien und Gebirgsarten im Deutschen Reiche, 1906, 2nd Ed.—LANGER. 'Die geologischen Verhältnisse des Kiesvorkommens von Rothenzechau im Riesengebirge,' 1911, Archiv d. k. geol. Landesanst.

Upon the granite core of the Riesengebirge rests a belt of crystalline schists overlaid by so-called green schists and clay-slates. This belt has been so much altered by contact-metamorphism that the geological age of its members can no longer be determined with certainty, though the discovery of *Graptolites* in some places would indicate Silurian. Within this belt the deposits at Kupferberg,<sup>1</sup> Rohnau, 5 km. farther south, and Rothenzechau, 11 km. still farther south, are found. The last of these three, worked in the Evelinens Glück mine, is marked upon the surface by a large number of old workings which may be followed for about 500 m. along the strike.

The Rothenzechau hills consist of mica-schist, hornblende-schist, crystalline limestone, cordierite-gneiss, quartzite, and schistose conglomerate. All these, as may be observed in the new workings, strike north-east, are steeply inclined, folded, and crossed by numerous disturbances.

Five different ore-bodies are known, all of which, generally speaking, occur in the hornblende-schist. Those in the Deep Adit lie between mica-schist and contact-metamorphosed rocks on the foot-wall, and hornblende-schist on the hanging-wall. The strike and dip coincide in general with that of the hornblende-schist. Sometimes the separation between ore-body and country-rock is sharp, while at other times these

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 402.

two merge gradually into each other. The width of the payable ore-body varies between 0.5 and 3 metres.

The valuable content is irregularly distributed and consists principally of arsenopyrite and pyrrhotite. The richest arsenopyrite contains 45 per cent of arsenic. The ore as it is mined contains on an average 35 per cent of mineral with 27–28 per cent of arsenic, 2–4 grm. of gold, and 40–60 grm. of silver per ton. Pyrite and marcasite are scarce; galena and sphalerite very rare. The pyrrhotite contains no cobalt or nickel, but some chalcopyrite.

The nature of the deposit has not yet been definitely determined. It is probable that two occurrences occur here side by side, one lode-like and the other contact-metamorphic. If this be so the pyrite deposit at Rothenzechau would occupy an intermediate position between the lodes and the true contact-deposits at Reichenstein.

## THE METASOMATIC PYRITE DEPOSITS

Metasomatic arsenopyrite deposits are unknown. The economic factors mentioned at the beginning of the discussion of pyrite and arsenopyrite lodes apply in general also to this group. These deposits were formed by the replacement of limestone and dolomite—and to a small extent also of other rocks—constituting the country-rock of pyrite lodes.

In this metasomatic origin lies their material difference from the lodes. Where the replacement of the limestone was extensive, large bodies of pyrite were formed, which, as regards size, may, to some extent at least, be compared with the smaller intrusive pyrite deposits. The form of these occurrences is that of the beds they have completely replaced. From the view of genesis, all gradations between the lode- and the bedded form may occur. Since however it is economically only possible to exploit the large occurrences, the incomplete non-bedded replacements are of no significance.

From the nature of these deposits no great extent in depth is as a rule possible, though a subsequent tilting of the beds, either before or after their alteration, may take place and bring greater depth into question. Possible primary depth-zones can however only have reference to the conditions of original bedding.

The material of the deposit varies but little. Frequently pyrite or marcasite is found exclusively; other sulphides are rare or very subordinate. The most frequent gangue-mineral is barite, which occurs either intimately intergrown with the pyrite, or, as is the case at

Meggen, replaces it locally, the pyrite in places gradually merging into barite. In such cases the difficult question arises, whether the barite is younger than the pyrite, or whether the limestone was first replaced by barite and this in turn by pyrite; or whether both are contemporaneous.

Of the secondary depth-zones, the formation of gossan is only known in such cases where the deposit comes to surface. Should there be a low precious-metal content in the pyrite, a precious-metal cementation zone may occur immediately under the gossan. Such a content has generally otherwise no significance. The gossan may have been considerably increased by oxidation-metasomatism, so that its thickness must not without further examination be taken as indicative of the strength of the primary deposit below.

An important deposit of this kind is now being worked in two mines at Meggen in Westphalia. The ore there is not particularly rich but owes its payability rather to the favourable economic position of the deposit. Similar occurrences are found at Schwelm in Westphalia.

## MEGGEN

### LITERATURE

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The pyrite deposit at Meggen occurs in the Attendorn-Elspe double syncline of the Lenne slate in Middle Devonian limestone, the geological investigation of these beds having been taken up principally by Denckmann and Henke.

According to Denckmann, the limestone forming the hanging-wall of the deposit consists of two horizons, of which the lower, from fossil evidence, belongs undoubtedly to the uppermost Middle Devonian, while the upper is representative of the lowest Upper Devonian; within this limestone complex therefore lies the boundary between Middle and Upper Devonian. Above the lowest Upper Devonian, which is calcareous in nature, follow the Büdesheim slates of the lower Upper Devonian;

while above these again, unconformably, comes the so-called Fossley formation, which embraces the clay-slates and sandstones of the upper Upper Devonian. The foot-wall of the deposit consists of the Lenne slate, the relative age of which here has not yet been definitely determined.

Tectonically, this ore-bed belongs to a fairly complex system of folds, the double syncline being accompanied by a number of secondary anticlines which have suffered such considerable denudation that the corresponding synclines now frequently appear as independent units.

The folds strike north-east, the limbs to the south-east being often steep in the neighbourhood of the deposit, while those to the north-west are often flat. In Fig. 394 a ground plan and section showing the geological position of this deposit are given; in strike and dip it follows the country.

The filling consists partly of pyrite and partly of barite, these minerals appearing to replace each other to such an extent that the barite, which occurs principally in the hanging-wall, may sometimes occupy the entire thickness. Generally speaking the pyrite predominates in the middle portion of both north-east striking flanks, west and east of Halberbracht, while the south-west and north-east continuations of this middle portion consist of barite. The pyrite mass, usually about 4 m. thick, has been followed along the strike for more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  kilometres. While the lower portion is irregularly coarse in structure, the upper appears to be banded and to consist of an alternation of pyrite with thin clay-slate seams. One of these seams, 10-30 cm. thick with pyrite finely impregnated throughout, frequently occurs at the contact of the pyrite bed with the hanging-wall limestone. Chalcopyrite and galena occur subordinately; they are found principally to the east where numerous transverse fractures occur, along which the younger lead-copper solutions probably circulated.

The replacement of the pyrite by barite has taken place in the east, south-east, south-west, and west, to such an extent that the pyrite bed gradually pinches out, and a barite bed, which increases in thickness till it finally reaches 6 m., takes its place. The lowest barite layers in the immediate neighbourhood of the pyrite contain narrow pyrite stringers. The barite here is either dense or spherulitic. Along the steep south flank decomposed pyrite occurs at the surface, the border of barite, owing to erosion, being absent. To the north-west the ore-bed is overlaid by younger beds, so that in this direction the line between the pyrite and barite is not yet known.

The deposit is traversed by numerous small disturbances which, since they affect the general position but little, cannot be expressed in the section given in Fig. 394. On the other hand, a powerful overthrust somewhat north-east of the deposit and indicated in that figure, is of great importance.





At Bonzel, a 4 m. thick limestone mass containing disseminated pyrite crystals occupies the place of the pyrite bed. With an increase in the amount of pyrite this bed in places probably becomes a body of clean pyrite.

With regard to genesis, Henke's conception deserves consideration. His authority sees in the deposit a large pyrite lens bordered by barite, which has been folded with the country. According to this idea the possibility exists that the barite was formed later than the pyrite, and that the deposition of the barite followed upon the decomposition of pyrite around its borders. Henke regards it as conceivable that this replacement took place simultaneously with the limestone, which the Bickert lies 4.3 m. above the deposit and contains 1-2 per cent finely distributed barite. If this were so, the occurrence would be a true ore-bed accompanied by subsequent surface decomposition and replacement.

The possibility of such a genesis is not to be denied. It is still more probable however that the deposit is a metasomatic replacement by pyrite of barite of an original Middle Devonian limestone bed. The gradual increase of the barite while the thickness of the bed remains practically constant, and an occurrence at Bonzel where in the place of the pyrite bed a 4 m. thick limestone with disseminated pyrite crystals occurs, support this view; in addition, experience has shown that elsewhere in the Rhenish Schiefergebirge, Middle Devonian limestones have been altered to pyrite. Furthermore, it must be considered that in nature pyrite occurs far more frequently as lode-filling and in metasomatic deposits than in true beds. Finally, the fact that in this occurrence pure pyrite only occurs associated with pyrite, while the other decomposition products usually found as the result of processes in which sulphuric acid and sulphurous salts were active, are absent, opposes Henke's theory of barite formation.

The deposit at Meggen has been worked since the year 1845. The two principal mines at the present day are Sizilia and Siegena in Müsen, which in 1910 yielded together 185,328 tons of pyrite. This occurrence despite its small size is of considerable importance in Germany, since that country only about 250,000 tons of pyrite are produced annually. In relation to the world's production, however, it plays but a small part.

The average pyrite content of the ore as it is mined is low, reaching only 34 per cent. This can be raised by hand-sorting to about 42.6 per cent, though by so doing about one-fifth of the weight is lost.

The deposit on the Rote Bergen at Schwelm belongs also in part to the metasomatic pyrite deposits. The massive limestone at that place has been altered not only to zinc oxidized ore but also in part to marcasite,

the replacement having been so gradual that the form of the corals is retained. In this alteration the faults occurring at the contact of the massive limestone and Lenne slate undoubtedly played an important part.

## THE NATIVE COPPER DEPOSITS

To this group belong the calcite- and zeolite-bearing occurrences of native copper associated with basic eruptive sheets—diabase and melaphyre—at Lake Superior in Michigan, as well as a number of mineralogically and geologically similar but unimportant deposits. The copper sandstone of Corocoro, etc., in Bolivia, which in many respects resembles the copper conglomerates of the Lake Superior district but carries no zeolites, occupies a place by itself.

## THE LAKE SUPERIOR DISTRICT

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The Keweenaw series, named after the peninsula of that name, belonging to the Algonkian, consists in its lower portion of conglomerates,

sandstones, and slates, free from eruptives. In the Middle Keweenawan a period of violent eruptivity began which left its impression upon the whole Lake Superior district. During this period plutonic rocks such as quartz- and orthoclase-bearing gabbros were formed, though not to so great an extent as tremendous eruptive sheets consisting essentially of basic rocks, but subordinately also of such acid rocks as felsite- and quartz-porphyry. These basic rocks contain mostly 48-50 per cent of  $\text{SiO}_2$ ; they carry olivine, augite, and plagioclase, and may in greater part be described as diabase and melaphyre. The thickness of the individual sheets varies from ten metres to several hundred metres; their surface is characterized by the presence of numerous vesicles due to an original high gaseous content. Between these eruptive sheets, conglomerates containing boulders of felsite-porphyry and diabase generally 1-8 m. in diameter though sometimes larger, were deposited.

At Portage Lake, where the most important mines are situated, this eruptive and conglomerate formation reaches a thickness of 13,680 feet, of which 2125 feet are occupied by twenty-two conglomerate beds, while the eruptive sheets are responsible for 11,555 feet. At other places these sheets are still thicker.

The Upper Keweenawan consists principally of sandstones and slates, which in the neighbourhood of Portage Lake reach a thickness of about 9000 feet. The whole Keweenawan series on Keweenaw Point is separated from the Cambrian sandstones by a huge fault.

The eruptive sheets with the accompanying conglomerates form together a syncline, the central portion of which is covered by Lake Superior. Including the extent under the bed of this lake and some areas now denuded, the Keweenawan formation has a superficial extent of roughly 75,000 sq. km., or an area equal to that of Bavaria. The total volume of the eruptive masses included therein has been estimated by Van Hise and Leith at some 54,000 cubic miles, and this district accordingly is one of the largest eruptive regions in the world.

The large copper deposits of this district are associated with the Middle Keweenawan which, as shown, consists so largely of these lava flows. The copper occurs in various forms, these being connected with one another by gradations. The following forms of occurrence may be differentiated:

1. Lodes containing chiefly calcite, usually 0.5-1 m. wide, which traverse the diabase, etc., vertically. Blocks of copper up to 420 tons in weight have been encountered in these; as a rule however such fissure-fillings are poor and irregular. They are found principally on the extreme point of the Keweenaw Peninsula, where, especially in former years, they were vigorously worked. The chief mines were, Central Cliff, with a vertical

depth of 1600 feet, Phoenix, and Copper Falls. To-day the exploitation of this type of deposit has practically ceased.

2. Cavity-fillings in amygdaloidal melaphyre or diabase, chiefly where these are scoraceous and coarsely vesicular. Such sections are locally known as 'ash-beds'; they represent the original surfaces of the lava flows. The eruptive rock in the neighbourhood of the deposits is always greatly decomposed. The copper is associated with calcite, quartz, prehnite, etc., which minerals frequently not only fill the vesicles but occur also in veins. The mineral-association of the amygdaloid beds, which are frequently 2-5 m.



FIG. 395.—Map of the Lake Superior district. Irving. The Keweenaw formation is indicated by lines roughly parallel to the strike, while the assumed boundaries in the lake ore are indicated by dotted lines.

C=Calumet; P=Portage Lake; Ont.=Ontonagon; while the different ranges indicate the iron districts.

and exceptionally 12 m., thick, is somewhat variable, but not so variable as that of the lodes. The country around Houghton and Calumet in the centre of the Keweenaw Peninsula, is especially characterized by this type of deposit. In this locality the Middle Keweenaw forms a north-east striking zone, with a horizontal width of 8-10 km., the beds of which dip 35°-55° to the north-west. In this zone, from hanging-wall to foot-wall, the following 'amygdaloid lodes' are known: the Atlantic, Pewabic, Osceola, Kearsarge, Arcadian, and Baltic amygdaloids, these being separated from one another by bands of unpayable material 50-200 m. in thickness.

3. Impregnations in the porphyry conglomerates lying between the lava flows. The copper in these deposits occurs with calcite, epidote, chlorite, etc., as the cement or matrix between the pebbles, these mostly varying from pea- to nut size. It is interesting to note that these pebbles in the process of impregnation have in part become completely replaced by copper. Flakes of native silver are found here and there, though as the native copper itself is almost entirely free from silver the relative quantities of these two metals is at most 1 of silver to 1000 of copper. Small amounts of whitneyite,  $\text{Cu}_3\text{As}$ , and domeykite,  $\text{Cu}_3\text{As}$ , occur as mineralogical rareties; a few sulphides have also been found in minute quantities. The furnace copper, among other things, contains some arsenic, which in the case of the Calumet and Hecla increases somewhat in depth.

The native copper is accompanied principally by calcite, quartz, prehnite, and laumontite, but also by analcime, apophyllite, natrolite and

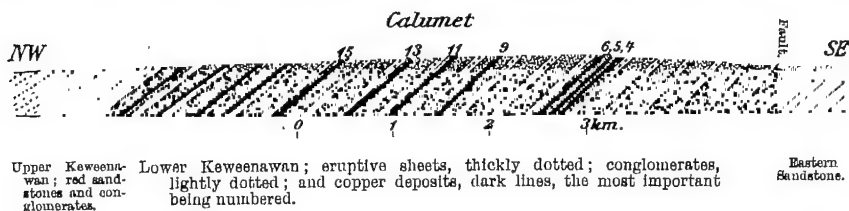


FIG. 396.—Section through the middle section of the Keweenaw peninsula near Calumet. Irving, 1883.

other zeolites, orthoclase, datolite, epidote, and delessite, a chlorite mineral; minerals other than these occur in quite subordinate amount. It is particularly associated with what is known as 'green earth,' this being a mixture of delessite and ferric oxide.

The copper content of the above-mentioned porphyry conglomerates, though usually not very high, is particularly interesting. The famous Calumet and Hecla conglomerate, in respect to its tenor, is an exception, as is also the Allouez conglomerate—known sometimes as the Boston and Albany—this being payable in places. The first-mentioned had near its outcrop a thickness of about 13 feet, which increased in depth to 20 feet. The average copper content in the upper levels was 2–3 per cent and occasionally somewhat more; below the 750 m. level however this diminished, till below the 1000 m. level the average content was only 1.3–1.7 per cent. These conglomerates, as illustrated in Fig. 396, dip  $35^{\circ}$ – $55^{\circ}$ .

By far the greater number of the Lake mines at present working, exploit the above-mentioned amygdaloid lodes. Of the total production,

the Calumet conglomerate has latterly been responsible for about 27 per cent, while the amygdaloid lodes have contributed almost all the remainder. Nearly all the present-day mines are situated near the towns Houghton and Calumet in the neighbourhood of Portage Lake, within an area 25 km. long and 3-4 km. wide ; some are found farther north on the Keweenaw Peninsula and at Ontonagon south-west of Portage Lake.

Similar deposits are found on Isle Royale in the Upper Lake, and at many other places within the Keweenawan formation, as for instance in the Douglas county of the neighbouring state of Wisconsin, and in Minnesota. Geologically, therefore, this type of deposit has a wide distribution. Only the mines on the Keweenaw Peninsula however are of any importance.

Some of the Lake deposits were worked by the Indians before the coming of the white race. Exploration work on a small scale was carried on by Europeans in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The present industry began in the middle of the 'forties. It developed so rapidly that, soon afterwards, the Lake district ranked among the most important copper districts of the world. Its total production, and that of the Calumet and Hecla mine which began in 1867, have at different periods been as follows :

	Total Copper Production of Lake Mines.	Calumet & Hecla.
	Long Tons.	Long Tons.
1845	12	...
1850	572	...
1860	5,388	...
1870	10,992	0,277
1880	22,204	14,140
1890	45,273	26,722
1900	63,461	34,715
1905	102,874	37,950
1910	99,545	35,000

The Lake district, which now produces about one-ninth of the world's copper, has of late years been surpassed by Butte in Montana, and by Arizona. The total production of the Lake district up to the end of the year 1910 amounted to 2,122,000 tons, worth about £120,000,000. Of this amount, 1,045,000 tons, or almost exactly one-half, were contributed by Calumet & Hecla, the largest mine. Apart from this, the most important mines are : Tamarack, now united with Calumet & Hecla, production in 1908, 5800 tons ; Osecola, a few kilometres distant from Calumet, production in 1908, 9700 tons ; Quincy, 9300 tons ; Baltic, 8700 tons ; Champion, 8100 tons ; and Mohawk, 4700 tons. To these must be added fifteen other companies with a total production of 16,800 tons in 1908. The ore won from all the mines in 1906, 1907, and 1908, had an average

copper content of 1.26, 1.10, and 1.06 per cent, respectively. The Calumet conglomerate during these years contained 2.00, 1.69, and 1.60 per cent; and the mines working cupriferous amygdaloids 0.96, 0.88, and 0.88 per cent of copper, respectively. Some mines have exploited ore containing only 0.6 and 0.7 per cent. Gradual diminution of the copper content in depth has been the invariable experience.

Owing to the large production, the relatively low copper content of the ore mined, and the comparatively short distance the ore-body extends along the strike, the principal mines quickly attained considerable depth. The deepest shafts of the Calumet & Hecla and Tamarack mines in July 1909 were 4920, 5253, and 5363 feet, respectively. Several of the shafts are inclined at an angle of about  $40^\circ$ , so that their depth along the dip may reach as much as 8500 feet. The Quincy mine, which exploits one of the amygdaloid lodes, reached in 1910 an inclined depth of 5280 feet, equivalent to a vertical depth of 4008 feet.

In this district the temperature increases in depth remarkably slowly, namely, only about  $1^\circ\text{C}$ . for every 200 feet of vertical depth. At a vertical depth of 5000 feet the temperature of new development ends is only about  $38^\circ$ , and that of well-ventilated stopes only  $27^\circ$ – $30^\circ\text{C}$ .

The ore is treated in greater part for concentrate containing 65–90 per cent of copper, which is refined direct in the reverberatory furnace. In process of this concentration a considerable amount of slime containing 25 per cent of copper is recovered, which after being briquetted is first smelted for blister copper and then refined. The cost of production in the more important mines has of late years been 8.77–9.5 cents per lb. of copper produced, or £40 : 10s. – £44 per ton. Of this cost, 62 per cent is incurred in mining, 23 per cent in dressing, and 15 per cent in smelting.

The Calumet & Hecla Company had up to 1910 altogether paid £23,200,000 in dividends, or roughly £22 : 10s. per ton of copper. Financially speaking, the good time for the Lake mines is now probably over, the Calumet & Hecla mine having almost completely exhausted its conglomerate down to a vertical depth of 3600 feet, while the Quincy mine is now working at depths of 2750 to 3250 feet. The Calumet & Hecla, which formerly produced at the rate of 10,000 tons of copper per metre of vertical depth, now at a depth of 3600 feet only produces roughly 1000 tons, equivalent to about 700 tons per metre of inclined depth.

The conglomerate bed is at present worked for a horizontal length of 2500 m. and an average horizontal thickness of about 7 m., while on an average it contains about 2 per cent of copper. From these data also, and assuming 2.9 tons of ore per cubic metre, almost exactly 1000 tons of copper per metre of vertical depth would result.



Mineralogically and geologically similar occurrences, though containing but little copper, have been discovered in many other places. Native copper, for instance, has been found on at least six of the Faroe islands, these islands consisting principally of flat late Tertiary basalt sheets. In this occurrence the copper occurs associated with calcite and different zeolites—such as heulandite, desmine, mesolite, more rarely chabasite, apophyllite, and gyrolite—in vesicles within the basalt. According to Cornu, the native copper was formed first and the zeolites later. Occasionally the copper occurs also as a secondary deposition in a basalt breccia, and in tuffs between the flows. It is never accompanied by sulphides. On the other hand, some cuprite, malachite, and chrysocolla, have often been formed secondarily from the copper.<sup>1</sup> This occurrence of copper in the Faroe islands was first mentioned by L. J. Debes, Copenhagen, 1673.

Similar occurrences of native copper, associated with calcite and prehnite in narrow veins and in vesicles, are found in the sheets of essexite-porphyrte and essexite-melaphyre at Guldholmen near Moss, Lövöen near Horten, Skredhelle near Skien, etc., in the Christiania district.

Further, the occurrence of native copper and prehnite in melaphyre at Oberstein on the Nahe, in diabase at Stirling in Scotland, in amygdaloidal trap in Alaska,<sup>2</sup> and in andesite in eastern Serbia,<sup>3</sup> are also worthy of mention.

Concerning genesis, it is accordingly worthy of note that the considerable number of native copper occurrences scattered throughout the world are mineralogically and geologically very similar. It is common to all that they are associated with basic eruptive rocks, and especially with flows of melaphyre, diabase, essexite-porphyrte, dolerite, basalt, and exceptionally of andesite. Such an association justifies the general conclusion that the copper must in some way or other be genetically connected with these basic eruptives. The characteristic mineral-association, including as it does, calcite, epidote, chlorite, prehnite, and other zeolites, points to deposition from an aqueous solution the temperature of which did not reach the critical temperature of water, 365° C.

Van Hise and Leith in 1911 pointed out that many of the associated minerals, such as prehnite, epidote, chlorite, and laumontite, contain alumina, and that alumina is either not soluble in cold water or only in very small amount. From this fact they conclude that the solutions had

<sup>1</sup> F. Cornu, 'Über das gediegen Kupfer in den Trappbasalten der Färöeinseln,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1907, p. 321.

<sup>2</sup> A. Knopf, 'The Copper-bearing Amygdaloids of the White River Region, Alaska,' *Econ. Geol.* V., 1910, p. 251.

<sup>3</sup> M. Lazarevic, 'Ein Beispiel der "Zeolith-Kupfer-Formation" im Andesit-Massiv Ostserbiens,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1910, pp. 81-82.

a high temperature. These authorities come likewise to this conclusion from a study of the decomposition of the country-rock; with these deposits the usual phenomena of weathering are not found, but decomposition such as can only be explained by the action of hot solutions. Pumpelly believes the copper to have been originally leached from the sandstone forming the hanging-wall, and that the cupriferous solutions represent descension solutions. With the latter portion of this view Lane agrees. Against this, Van Hise and Leith emphasize the fact that deposition from hot solutions postulates ascension, such as must have taken place immediately after the extrusion of the large basic sheets. When it is also remembered that these sheets, not only in the Lake district but also in the small analogous occurrences elsewhere, are characterized by a strikingly large number of vesicles due to the high gaseous content of the magma, and, furthermore, that the large mines of the Lake district exhibit distinct ore-shoots which usually do not coincide exactly with the dip, it may, with Van Hise and Leith, be concluded that the solutions were in greater part juvenile and arose at the consolidation of the basic rocks; meteoric waters which would have become heated during their passage through the heated rocks probably played but a subordinate part. Such juvenile solutions would account also for the boron- and fluorine contents of the datolite and apophyllite, etc., two minerals especially characteristic of the copper occurrence at Lake Superior.

The native copper of the Lake district and of analogous occurrences was in all probability deposited fairly simultaneously with the associated minerals, though in different districts a certain paragenetic seniority may be formulated. For the Lake Superior district Pumpelly gives the following: (1) chlorite and some laumontite, (2) laumontite, (3) laumontite, prehnite, and epidote, (4) quartz, (5) calcite, (6) copper and calcite, (7) calcite, analcime, apophyllite, datolite, and orthoclase; in this sequence the different generations somewhat overlap. In the Faroe islands the zeolites, according to Cornu, are younger than the native copper. For the andesite occurrence in Serbia, Lazarevic gives the following sequence: (1) copper, (2) chabasite, (3) apophyllite, (4) calcite, (5) cuprite, (6) chrysocolla and malachite, and finally several minerals formed secondarily from the copper. Here therefore the copper is older than the zeolites, while in the Lake district some of the zeolites are older than the copper.

In regard to the mineral-association, the vesicular filling of the 'ash-beds' of the diabase, etc. in the Lake district, and of the associated rocks of the other occurrences, is generally speaking identical with the ordinary vesicular filling of basic eruptives, the only difference being the copper content. The formation of these copper deposits is therefore a special

case of the zeolitization of basic eruptive sheets.<sup>1</sup> In harmony with this conception Beck later termed this group the zeolitic copper deposits.

The basic eruptive rocks in general invariably contain copper,<sup>2</sup> though naturally in very small amount, and some sulphur. From the mutual affinity of these two elements Vogt considers that in the magma and in the consolidated rock the copper occurs preferably as a sulphide, such as chalcopyrite, chalcocite, etc., and only subordinately associated with the silicates. This small sulphide copper content would easily be extracted by solutions containing ferric salts, such as  $\text{FeCl}_3$ ,  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ , etc., according to the formula:  $\text{CuS} + 2\text{FeCl}_3 = \text{CuCl}_2 + 2\text{FeCl}_2 + \text{S}$ ,<sup>3</sup> while any silver present would also go into solution. A very low copper content in the basic magma or rock would under these conditions be quite sufficient to account for even large deposits.

The total thickness of the copper-bearing conglomerates and amygdaloid beds at Portage Lake is some 25 m., the average copper content of this thickness being 1.5 per cent. The basic eruptive sheets on the other hand have together a thickness of nearly 4000 metres. Had the copper-bearing beds an uninterrupted extent, an average copper content equivalent to 0.0094 per cent in the basic sheets would be sufficient to supply the whole of the copper in the deposits. But, since these beds in relation to the whole complex extend only a short distance along the strike, a small fraction of 0.0094 per cent would amply suffice for the enormous quantity of copper in these deposits.

With regard to the precipitation of the copper in the native state, it was formerly considered that electrolytic processes had brought this about.<sup>4</sup> Such a view however, would necessitate the assumption that a cathode existed in each individual vesicle, etc., which seems somewhat unreasonable.

The view put forward by Pumpelly in the 'seventies that the copper was precipitated by reduction, is probably more apt. Minerals containing ferrous oxide, such as magnetite, augite, etc., have a reducing effect. The native copper frequently found in the oxidation and cementation zones of various deposits was formed in this manner. In the case of the Lake occurrences this view is supported by the kernels of magnetite found here and there enclosed in native copper, and by the large amount of iron oxide, in the form of friable hæmatite, found in the immediate vicinity of the copper. This oxide is so considerable in amount that it colours the battery water brick-red and forms large deposits in the lake below the battery.

A few years ago H. N. Stokes<sup>5</sup> by means of experiment established the fact that ferrous sulphate,  $\text{FeSO}_4$ , at a temperature of 200° C. pre-

<sup>1</sup> Vogt, *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1899, p. 13.

<sup>2</sup> Foster and Whitney, 1850.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 158.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 216.

<sup>5</sup> *Econ. Geol.*, 1906, Vol. I. p. 647.

precipitates metallic copper from a solution of copper sulphate, iron oxide being simultaneously formed by hydrolysis of the ferric sulphate.<sup>1</sup> G. Fernekes<sup>2</sup> later showed that chlorides at a temperature of 200°–250° behave similarly, the following formulae probably representing the reactions :

1.  $2\text{FeCl}_2 + 2\text{CuCl}_2 = 2\text{CuCl} + 2\text{FeCl}_3$ .
2.  $2\text{FeCl}_2 + 2\text{CuCl} = 2\text{Cu} + 2\text{FeCl}_3$ .
3.  $\text{FeCl}_3 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2\text{Cl} + 2\text{HCl}$ .

The basic iron chloride after a time becomes altered to iron oxide and hydrochloric acid. In the experiments, in order to neutralize this acid a small amount of easily affected silicate, such as prehnite, was added.

From these facts the general conclusion may be drawn that all ferrous compounds, not only minerals but also dissolved salts, at a sufficiently high temperature and given time enough, precipitate metallic copper from solutions, with the simultaneous formation more particularly of iron oxide. Thus Pumpelly's theory becomes expanded.

The flakes of native silver occurring on the copper are probably the result of galvanic precipitation, according to the formula :  $\text{Cu} + \text{Ag}_2\text{SO}_4 = \text{Ag}_2 + \text{CuSO}_4$ .<sup>3</sup>

The whole process resulting in the deposition of native copper may accordingly be depicted in the following manner : Heated solutions containing copper salts, carbon dioxide, silica, alkalis, etc., as well as some boron and fluorine, penetrated certain porous beds, sometimes taking advantage of fissures along which the country-rock then became decomposed. At first, chlorite more especially, and some epidote, prehnite, etc., were formed ; then, during a second stage, the copper more particularly was precipitated, principally by ferrous oxide ; while finally, the deposition of the bulk of the alkaline zeolites and calcite followed.

The decrease in the copper content in depth is a primary factor depending upon the physical-chemical laws governing the precipitation of copper from solution ; it has nothing to do with secondary migration.

The mine waters associated with the Lake occurrences are characterized by containing a striking amount of the chlorides  $\text{CaCl}_2$  and  $\text{NaCl}$ . This would indicate that the solutions from which the copper was precipitated contained much chloride, and that the metal was originally present in greater part as chloride. The almost complete absence of sulphides in these occurrences indicates that the solutions contained no sulphates, or only traces. Lane has put forward the hypothesis that the chloride waters of the Lake mines represent fossil lake- or desert waters, which filtered from above and on their way extracted the copper from the basic rocks. On general geological grounds this view cannot be endorsed.

<sup>1</sup>  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ .

<sup>2</sup> *Econ. Geol.*, 1907.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 139.

## COROCORO IN BOLIVIA

## LITERATURE

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In addition to the occurrence at Lake Superior, native copper is also found in considerable amount in copper-sandstone at Corocoro in Bolivia—17° south latitude and about 4000 m. above sea-level—as well as at numerous other places in that country between 16° and 22° 42' south latitude. The principal district lies in the inter-Andean plateau of the Bolivian Cordilleras. Here the copper occurs in a red ferruginous sandstone—described by Steinmann as Puca sandstone, 'puca' meaning red—belonging to the Cretaceous. In addition to native copper, some native silver, domeykite, subordinate chalcocite, and a few other sulphur-, arsenic-copper-, and silver ores, also occur. Some selenite, barite, and a sparing amount of calcite, are found as associated minerals.

The copper at Corocoro—coro meaning copper—occurs principally as an impregnation in some twenty sandstone and conglomerate beds, mostly 1-2 m. thick. This cupriferous complex occurs in a zone 3-4 km. long and 2 km. wide following a large fault-fissure, and has a total thickness of several hundred metres. The deposits however are neither conformable in general nor in detail. Narrow veins of native copper and pseudomorphs of native copper after aragonite, according to Sundt and Steinmann, prove undoubtedly that the copper is epigenetic. It is evident that, just as with the conglomerates and amygdaloids at Lake Superior, the copper was deposited from solutions which saturated certain porous beds.

In the neighbourhood there is an occurrence of diorite, and Steinmann suggests that this eruptive rock also extends under the copper deposit. Like the mine waters of the Lake mines which, according to Lane, in depth contain chlorides, those at Corocoro also are rich in chlorides of the alkalis and alkaline earths.

The copper-sandstone is red and ferruginous, a fact which points to a reduction process similar to that postulated for the Lake mines. Curiously enough, however, the sandstone in the immediate neighbourhood of the copper is bleached or faded, a reduction from  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  to  $\text{FeO}$  having taken place. Steinmann supposes a partial oxidation of  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$  by  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  to have taken place, whereat the sulphur only was oxidized, the copper remaining as metal. Such an explanation however appears very questionable.

Corocoro was originally worked by the Incas, an Indian race. The mines then lay idle for some time, and only after 1832 was continuous

work resumed. In 1867 they were 100 m. deep. The yearly production of copper during the last thirty years, as given in the copper statistics of H. R. Merton & Co., has been 2000–2500 tons. According to Steinmann it has at times been somewhat higher than this; in 1902 for instance it was 4200 tons.

Copper-sandstone is also being worked for copper at Chacarilla, 50 km. south of Corocoro, and at Cobriros, situated in 20° 15' south latitude.

## THE COPPER PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD AND ITS DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF DEPOSIT

### LITERATURE

For the period after 1879 the annual copper statistics of H. R. Merton & Co. of London were principally used; and for the period before that time, chiefly B. NEUMANN, *Die Metalle*, Halle, 1904; cited on p. 644.—J. H. L. VOGT. 'Die Geschichte des Kupfers,' Christiania, 1895, with résumé under the title of 'Die Statistik des Kupfers,' *Zeit. f. prakt. Geol.*, 1896, pp. 89-93. H. WENCKER's work, 'Die wirtschaftliche Bedeutung der Kupfererzlagerstätten der Welt in den Jahren 1906-1910 mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der genetischen Lagerstättengruppen,' *Bergwirtschaftlichen Zeitfragen*, Part 3, Berlin, 1912, only appeared when this book was in the press.

The copper statistics from 1850 onward are regarded as fairly accurate, and reliable statistical material also exists for the earlier period, at least for the majority of the large works. The total production before 1600 was certainly more than 1-1.5 million tons, and may be put at about 2 million tons.

### TOTAL COPPER PRODUCTION AND AVERAGE PRICE OF COPPER

Years.	Total Copper Production.	Average Price of Copper per Ton, Chilean Bar.
	Metric Tons.	£
1901-1910	6,945,000	65½
1891-1900	3,770,000	51½
1881-1890	2,252,000	56½
1871-1880	1,050,000	74
1861-1870	760,000	79
1851-1860	510,000	91
1801-1850	about 1,400,000	...
1701-1800	" 1,300,000	...
1601-1700	" 750,000	...
Still earlier	2,000,000	...
Total, about	20,750,000	...

This is roughly 20,000,000 tons, worth some £1,400,000,000. The total value of the gold production up to date has been reckoned at

about £2,900,000,000,<sup>1</sup> and that of silver at about £2,500,000,000.<sup>2</sup> As much copper was produced in the last twenty-five years, that is since 1885, as in the previous eighty-five years of the nineteenth century, or in all the former centuries together.

The copper production of the individual countries may be gathered from the following table :

ANNUAL COPPER PRODUCTION (output from mining operations)

		In Long Tons.				
		1880.	1890.	1900.	1905.	1910.
Germany	{ Mansfeld . . .	9,800	15,800	18,390	19,565	19,995
	{ Elsewhere . . .	1,000	1,825	2,020	2,595	4,715
Austria	. . .	470	1,210	865	1,175	2,130
Hungary, including Bosnia, Serbia	. . .	820	300	490	150	4,955
Norway	{ Sulitjelma . . .	...	...	2,220	3,195	4,925
	{ Elsewhere . . .	2,426	1,390	1,715	3,110	5,500
England	. . .	3,662	935	650	715	500
Sweden	. . .	1,074	830	450	550	2,000
Russia-Siberia	. . .	3,300	4,800	6,740	8,700	22,310
Spain-Portugal	. . .	36,313	51,700	52,872	44,810	50,255
Italy	. . .	1,380	2,200	2,955	2,950	3,220
Turkey	. . .	...	...	520	700	600
Canada	. . .	50	3,050	8,500	20,535	25,715
Mexico	{ Boleo . . .	...	3,450	11,050	10,185	12,795
	{ Elsewhere . . .	400	875	11,000	54,255	46,030
Newfoundland	. . .	1,500	1,735	1,900	2,280	1,080
United States	. . .	25,010	116,325	263,502	389,120	484,890
	Lake District . . .	22,200	44,450	54,111	97,770	97,770
	Montana . . .	...	49,560	114,144	142,490	128,770
	Arizona . . .	...	15,945	49,447	99,490	132,625
	Elsewhere . . .	2,810	6,370	40,800	49,370	125,725
Argentina	. . .	300	150	75	155	300
Bolivia, Corocoro	. . .	2,000	1,900	2,100	2,000	2,500
Chili	. . .	42,916	26,120	25,700	29,165	35,235
Peru	. . .	600	150	8,220	8,625	18,305
Venezuela	. . .	1,800	5,640	...	...	...
Cuba	. . .	...	...	...	...	3,475
South Africa	{ Cape Copper Co. . .	5,038	5,000	4,420	5,025	4,405
	{ Namaqualand . . .	...	1,450	2,300	2,300	2,500
Remaining part of Africa	. . .	500	120	...	415	8,300
Japan	. . .	3,900	15,000	27,840	35,910	46,000
Australia	. . .	9,700	7,500	23,020	33,940	40,315
Totals	. . .	154,000	269,500	479,500	682,000	852,950
Price per ton, Chilean bars	. . .	£63	£54	£73½	£69	£57½

The total production up to the end of 1910 is distributed among the different countries as follows :

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 644.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 647, 648.

United States, since 1845	. . .	6,900,000 tons.
Spain and Portugal	. . .	about 2,600,000 "
Chili <sup>1</sup>	. . .	2,500,000 "
Japan	. . .	1,250,000 "
Cornwall	. . .	1,100,000 "
Germany	. . .	1,000,000 "
Russia-Siberia	. . .	1,000,000 "
Australia, since 1844 <sup>2</sup>	. . .	800,000 "
Mexico, only since 1879	. . .	660,000 "
Sweden, since about 1220	. . .	about 550,000 "
Austria-Hungary	. . .	333,333 "
Canada, only since 1879	. . .	300,000 "
Norway, since 1631	. . .	225,000 "
South Africa		200,000 "
Peru	} in general since 1879; Italy and Bolivia also earlier	125,000 "
Bolivia		70,000 "
Italy		85,000 "

This table makes a total of about 19,750,000 tons. To it must be added the earlier production of Italy, Bolivia, Cape Colony, etc., as well as the production of Turkey, Serbia, Newfoundland, Cuba, Venezuela, etc.

The UNITED STATES during the period 1845-1850 produced only about 2500 tons; 1851-1875, 214,000 tons; 1876-1900, 2,840,000 tons; 1901-1910, 3,880,000 tons; or altogether and up to 1910 a total of 6,935,000 metric tons. Of this amount 2,410,000 tons came from Montana; <sup>3</sup> 2,160,000 tons from the Lake District; <sup>4</sup> and 1,450,000 tons from Arizona.<sup>5</sup>

In the Huelva district of SPAIN AND PORTUGAL<sup>6</sup> in ancient times 800,000 or 1,200,000 tons, according to various estimates, were produced; from the eighth century A.D. to 1850, only some 10,000 or 20,000 tons; 1851-1880, 142,000 tons; 1881-1900, 925,000 tons; 1901-1910, 510,000 tons; making a total of say 2,600,000 tons.

JAPAN, during the period 1901-1910, produced 403,000 metric tons; and during 1881-1900, 315,000 tons; so that including earlier figures the production may be estimated at some 1,250,000 tons.<sup>7</sup>

CORNWALL, according to some estimates<sup>8</sup> produced from 1501 to 1725 about 20,000 tons, and from 1726 to 1905 some 883,000 tons, making a total of roughly 900,000 tons. Other estimates<sup>9</sup> give somewhat more, some as much as 1,300,000 tons; in round figures, therefore, 1,000,000 tons may be taken. The production has considerably decreased of late years.<sup>10</sup>

GERMANY from 1901 to 1910 produced 220,000 metric tons; 1875 to 1900, 525,500 tons; 1851 to 1875, 87,710 tons; 1826 to 1850, 26,500 tons; and before 1825 perhaps 100,000 tons or at most 200,000 tons. A total of 950,000 or 1,050,000 tons, or roughly 1,000,000 tons, is thus reached. Of this figure the Mansfeld copper-shale produced undoubtedly the bulk, namely, from 1779 to 1910, 650,000 tons; and from 1688 to 1779, 25,500 tons;<sup>11</sup> or including the earlier period, a total of not quite 700,000 tons. Adding to this the other old German mines working copper-shale it may be reckoned that this deposit has produced hitherto roughly 750,000 tons.

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, pp. 895, 896.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 933.

<sup>7</sup> *Ante*, pp. 200, 897.

<sup>10</sup> *Ante*, p. 436.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 899, 900.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, pp. 398, 887, 899.

<sup>8</sup> *Ante*, p. 436.

<sup>11</sup> Schrader, *Pr. Zeit. f. B-, H- u. S-wesen*, 1869.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, pp. 887, 889.

<sup>6</sup> *Ante*, pp. 199-200, 327.

<sup>9</sup> *Ante*, p. 200.



RUSSIA AND SIBERIA<sup>1</sup> from 1901 to 1910 produced 134,000 metric tons ; 1876 to 1900, 127,000 tons ; 1851 to 1875, 122,800 tons ; 1826 to 1850, 109,000 tons ; or since 1825 a total of 493,000 tons. In the eighteenth century and in the second half of the seventeenth the production was very high, in 1700 for instance it was 3276 tons. The total production up to 1910 may accordingly be estimated at about 1,000,000 tons.

MEXICO.—Boleo from the start of work in 1887 to 1910 produced 219,000 metric tons. Other Mexican mines from 1901 to 1910 produced 404,000 tons ; 1891 to 1900, 35,900 tons ; 1879 to 1890, 4500 tons ; or since 1879 a total of about 660,000 tons. Previous to 1879 the production was very small.

SWEDEN.—Fahlun since about 1200 has produced roughly 500,000 tons. The zenith of production was reached in the middle of the seventeenth century.<sup>2</sup> Ätvidaberg from 1764 to about 1900 produced 35,000 tons ;<sup>3</sup> to this must be added the output of some other small mines. The total production is therefore some 550,000 tons.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, including of late years Bosnia and Serbia, from 1901 to 1910 produced 27,000 metric tons ; 1876 to 1900, 32,000 tons ; 1851 to 1875, 56,300 tons ; 1828 to 1850, 65,200 tons ; or since 1825 a total of 180,000 tons. Including the earlier period this would become some 333,330 tons.

CANADA from 1901 to 1910 produced 230,000 metric tons ; 1891 to 1900, 53,000 tons ; 1879 to 1890, 15,000 tons ; or since 1879 a total of 298,000 tons. Previous to this date the production was small.

NORWAY.<sup>4</sup>—The home production from 1901 to 1910 amounted to 14,100 metric tons ; 1815 to 1900, 45,000 tons ; and 1624 to 1814, about 70,000 tons ; or altogether from 1634 to 1910, 129,000 tons. Since about 1860 roughly 4,000,000 tons of pyrite with a net content of about 96,000 tons of copper have been exported. Including this the total output would be about 225,000 tons.

ITALY from 1879 to 1910 produced 85,000 tons, in addition to a large amount won earlier, especially in the Middle Ages.

SOUTH AFRICA from 1879 to 1910 produced 199,000 tons, in addition to a small amount earlier.

BOLIVIA from 1879 to 1910 produced about 70,000 metric tons, in addition to a large amount much earlier.<sup>5</sup>

PERU from 1898, the beginning of copper mining in that country, to 1910 produced 119,000 metric tons ; 1879 to 1897 about 7500 tons ; or, from 1879 to 1910, a total of about 125,000 tons. The early production is not very important.

The average yearly copper outputs of the most important districts during the period 1906–1910 were according to Wencker<sup>6</sup> as follows :

	Tons.		Tons.
Butte, Montana . . .	124,600	Jerome, Arizona . . .	19,600
Lake Superior . . .	101,500	Globe, Arizona . . .	17,200
Bisbee, Arizona . . .	59,000	Shashta, California . . .	15,100
Huelva . . .	51,000	Japan . . .	14,700
Cananea, Mexico . . .	34,000	Boundary, Canada . . .	14,000
Chili . . .	33,200	Queensland . . .	13,700
Clifton-Morenci, Arizona . . .	31,800	Ely, Nevada . . .	12,200
Bingham, Utah . . .	31,500	Cerro de Pasco, Peru . . .	12,100
Mansfeld . . .	19,100	Boleo, Mexico . . .	12,000

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 900

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, pp. 198, 314-315.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 340.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, pp. 198, 313.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, p. 938.

<sup>6</sup> *Loc. cit.*

Between them, these eighteen districts produced 615,300 tons per year, or 78.20 per cent of the world's copper production. The remaining 171,000 tons, or 21.8 per cent, came from a large number of smaller districts, each responsible for less than 10,000 tons yearly.

#### THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COPPER PRODUCTION AMONG THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF DEPOSIT

*Copper Lodes.*—The whole production of Butte and several other districts in the United States, almost the whole output of Chili and Peru, and a subordinate part of the production of Mexico, are derived from this class of deposit; further, some three-fourths of the Japanese, and about two-thirds of the Australian production; and finally, the output from a large number of other, mostly small districts all over the world. On the basis of the figures for 1910 the copper produced from lodes represents about 40 per cent of the world's production.

*Contact-Deposits and Combined Lode- and Contact-Deposits.*—To this class belong at least three of the principal occurrences in Arizona, producing together some 100,000 tons of copper yearly; as well as Bingham in Utah and Cananea in Mexico, each of these two producing about 35,000 tons per year; and in addition several other occurrences in the United States and Mexico, and a number in the Urals, the Caucasus, the Banat, and at Traversella in Piemont, etc. This class is responsible for at least 25 per cent, and perhaps even 30 per cent of the total production.

*Native Copper Deposits.*—About 12 per cent comes from this class.<sup>1</sup>

*Magmatic-Intrusive Pyrite Deposits.*—The Huelva occurrence,<sup>2</sup> producing now about 50,000 tons of copper yearly; nearly all Norwegian deposits, producing about 8500 tons of copper in pyrite and copper ore yearly; Fahlun, now producing little; and Sain Bel, Agordo, Schmöllnitz, etc., belong to this class. Including Mount Lyell in Tasmania with about 8000 tons yearly, and Ducktown in Tennessee, this class is responsible for not quite 10 per cent of the total production.

*Magmatic Nickel-Pyrrhotite Deposits.*—About 7000 tons of copper are produced annually from the Sudbury deposit belonging to this class.<sup>3</sup> To this must be added some hundred tons from other deposits, making a total of not quite 1 per cent.

*Magmatic Bornite Deposits.*—The deposits of this class typically represented by the occurrence at Klein Namaqualand in South Africa,<sup>4</sup> have hitherto been very little investigated. About 0.5 per cent (?) of the yearly copper production comes from them.

*Metasomatic Copper Deposits.*<sup>5</sup>—About 3 per cent may be reckoned

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 928.

<sup>2</sup> *Ante*, p. 327.

<sup>3</sup> *Ante*, p. 293.

<sup>4</sup> *Ante*, p. 300.

<sup>5</sup> *Ante*, pp. 908-920

as coming at present from these deposits; in the future perhaps this percentage will be higher.

*Copper-Shale Deposits.*—The German Kupferschiefer yields to-day 2·3 per cent of the world's copper production. Other copper ore-beds—among them Boleo in Mexico and the fahlbands, the genesis of which latter has not yet been satisfactorily determined—produce together some 2 per cent.

Finally, a small amount of copper, namely, some 1 per cent, is won as a by-product from gold-silver- and lead-silver-zinc lodes.

The above percentages may be tabulated as follows :

PERCENTAGES OF THE WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF COPPER PRODUCED BY THE  
DIFFERENT CLASSES OF DEPOSIT

Magmatic deposits	{ Nickel-pyrrhohite group, some 1 per cent Bornite group, 0-5 per cent Pyrite group, 9-10 per cent }	10-11 per cent.
Contact-deposits and combined contact- and lode-deposits	.	25-30 „
Copper lodes	.	some 40 „
Metasomatic deposits	.	„ 3 „
Native copper deposits	.	12 „
Kupferschiefer	.	2·3 „
Other ore-beds	.	some 2 „
By-products from deposits of other metals	.	„ 1 „

This table in the case of several of its figures is naturally only approximate. It is sufficient however to indicate that by far the greater number and the most important copper deposits are connected in some way or other—by magmatic differentiation, by contact-metamorphism, or by subsequent thermal action, etc.—with eruptive phenomena.